

# The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1880.

## The Week.

TUESDAY'S election, so far as the result is known at the present writing, gives General Garfield 219 electoral votes and General Hancock the remaining 150, a majority sufficiently decisive, of course, to remove any anxiety about the official count. This estimate gives Hancock, besides the 138 votes of the Southern States, the 9 of New Jersey and the 3 of Nevada. With these exceptions the line is exactly drawn between North and South, and Nevada is not yet conceded by the Republicans. In New Jersey, too, the Democratic majority is but a fraction of that in 1876, and the Republicans claim the Governor and State ticket, and undoubtedly have a substantial legislative majority on joint ballot. New York is the surprise of the day, the Republican majority being about 25,000, apparently, and due not to the State so much as to Democratic losses in this and in Kings County, Hancock's majority in them being some 20,000 below Tilden's. The majority in Ohio is largely increased over that of October. Indiana remains about the same, and Maine has been "redeemed." New Hampshire was comparatively close, and for a time Oregon was doubtful. The Democratic majority in Delaware was but 1,000 odd. In Virginia the Readjusters are badly beaten, and have either lost their negro allies or "traded" Hancock for Congressmen. In Tennessee, where the situation was somewhat similar, a Republican governor is probably elected; and the Hancock electoral ticket seems to have had a close shave in North Carolina. The estimates for the next Congress are various. The Republicans certainly have the House, however, and gain Senators from Indiana, New Jersey, Connecticut, New York, and Pennsylvania; if they retain the disputed seat from Nevada they will, with General Arthur's vote, have a majority, though at present Fair seems to have the best chance. The defeat of Mr. Chittenden, in Brooklyn, is noteworthy and a misfortune. Mr. Hewitt has a very large, and Mr. Morton a sufficient, majority in the Tenth and Eleventh New York districts respectively. Grace is elected mayor of New York, but by a significantly small margin, and Truax is defeated for Justice of the Superior Court.

The result is, apart from its effect on the policy of the Government, gratifying in several ways. It promises to make the White House, during the next four years, as during the past four, the resort of good company—that is, of reputable and intelligent men—and to keep it clear of the class to which the Shepherds, Macdonalds, Joyces, Babcocks, and the like belonged. It proves, too, that there is no need of "a strong man" at the head of the Government, and that a well-equipped lawyer can carry as many States as are necessary to give him the Presidency without dispute, and that the best way of preventing the Democrats from making a fraudulent count is to put up a man who will get large majorities, and not a man who will make a close run and then offer to fight anybody who doubts his election. We see our esteemed and sorrowful and greatly-mistaken contemporary, the *World*, thinks Garfield in 1880 means Grant in 1884. General Garfield's election certainly means nothing of the kind. Whether his Administration will prepare the way for Grant in 1884 depends very much on the part the select body known as "the Grant crowd" plays in it. If it should be a pure and efficient Administration, and receive as such the steady support of "the crowd" in question, and they should successfully conceal their natural propensities for four years, it would undoubtedly strengthen them greatly, for the country is very indulgent and oblivious towards them. Should they dominate the Administration, however, with such ease as to make self-restraint and disguise seem unnecessary, the country will be just as sick of them in 1884 as it was in 1876 and 1880, and will show it in the same way. If General Garfield will consider carefully the causes of the Republican defeats between 1870 and 1876, and Tilden's Northern

successes in the latter year, and the causes of Republican recovery since then, we are sure he will leave us no cause for anxiety about the nomination of 1884.

Mr. Grace's election, together with that of the Democratic aldermen, probably makes a Catholic majority in the Board of Apportionment, which distributes the School Fund. That this will lead to an attempt to divert a portion of it to sectarian schools is, of course, not certain, but it seems very probable. Mr. Grace, in his letter of acceptance, praised the common-school system; but what he said is quite consistent with his thinking the Catholics ought to have a share of the money for common schools managed in their own way. That Kelly thinks so there can be no doubt; for Kelly is a pious Catholic, and on the question whether Catholics should use public money, if they can get it, for Catholic schools the Church has never in any country exhibited the slightest wavering. She has compromised on most other questions of a politico-religious kind, but never on this. In fact, we are willing to stake our very slender reputation as theologians on the assertion that if Mr. Grace as Mayor has discretion in the disposition of the school fund, and fails to give the Catholics a share, he will commit a sin. The canvass was conducted by Kelly in a shocking way for a pious man. He filled his paper, the *Express*, with filthy stories about the editor of the *Herald*, to punish him for opposing his candidate, and disgusted a long-suffering community to such a degree that Grace's natural majority of about 40,000 was cut down to 4,000 or less. This indicates that he lost about 35,000 Democratic votes, probably owing to the extraordinary ruffianism of his political and religious patron.

President Hayes's absence on a pleasure-tour during the heat and fury of the canvass has excited some comment, and on the part of certain politicians some ire; but it is undoubtedly one of the many pieces of good example he has set. It presents a most agreeable contrast to the position of the Administration in 1876, when the Secretary of the Interior was chairman of a party committee, and was busy "fighting the devil with fire," and the President was backing up the Southern carpet-baggers with "troops" and snapping his fingers at the State courts, and generally seeing to it that the wicked Democrats got the worst of it. The fact is, that now that our elections are getting to be very close, and that disputed counts are becoming common, it is very desirable that both the chief executive officer of the Government and his legal adviser, the Attorney-General, should keep out of the fray, so that, if there should be a quarrel over the returns, they can exert whatever authority in the matter constitutionally belongs to them rather as bystanders than as participants.

The solid business men have held several meetings in Wall Street during the week, but the Republican rally Thursday was undoubtedly the most imposing as well as of the most unquestioned commercial character. The orator of the day was Col. Ingersoll, who made a most effective speech after his kind. The fitness of his selection to address the sober-minded and serious contingent has been criticised in Democratic quarters with customary flippancy, we observe; but it is plain, of course, that it is not such persons who need conversion to sound principles, and that the Colonel is admirably adapted to cheer and animate those who are already with him. A more noteworthy consideration is, perhaps, the toleration shown by pillars of society for his abandoned theological views, or possibly we should say the overlooking of these on account of his eminent services. We should not have to go back very many years to find a state of feeling far more alive to the interests of theology than to the success of political parties, and insisting on the close connection between the two. As it is, only the *World* is sensitive enough on this score to display the intolerance indicated in its remark that "the only financier who addressed the otherwise highly respectable, if not very intelligent, Garfield business meeting in Wall Street yesterday was Col. Bob Ingersoll." This is the cynicism of Bourbon orthodoxy. Mr. Beecher, we notice, does not feel in this way, and

endorses Ingersoll, for the campaign only perhaps, but cordially. In a letter to the Hon. "Al" Daggett, accepting an invitation to preside at an Ingersoll meeting, he draws the clear distinction between occasions like the present and ordinary occasions. This is no time, he says, to ask idle questions about a man's creed. "If it would promote the cause, I would preside at twenty meetings with twenty Robert Ingersolls to speak," he assures the ex-sheriff, and concludes: "Do what you think best about it, and I will be obedient." Accordingly, the two spoke together in Brooklyn Friday night, but whether they will be in such close sympathy again until the next Presidential canvass it is a delicate matter to predict.

The judicial enquiry into the genuineness of the so-called "Chinese letter" of General Garfield to "H. L. Morey" has occupied the week past without being concluded, so far as the guilt of the person accused of concocting it is concerned; but the production of the letter and its envelope in court betrayed at once the tampering to which the latter had been subjected, and settled the character of this disgraceful political manœuvre. The alleged forger is an English Bohemian who writes for the "story-papers," and who confessedly wrote the editorial articles defending the genuineness of the letter in the underground journal which first published it. No account has been offered of the source from which the precious document was obtained, nor any explanation of "Morey's" inaccessibility; while the most respectable testimony has been given to show that he is a myth, along with the "Employers' Union" of Lynn. The extensive use made of the forgery has, perhaps, justified the Republican managers in attaching so much importance to its disproof in addition to General Garfield's repudiation of it; but it was highly unfortunate that the last hours of a canvass not remarkable for the clash of principles should be taken up with so contemptible an incident. Moreover, the cunning of the parties implicated enabled them to entrap Mr. Jewell, who very unwisely sought to get a retraction from them, into actually bespeaking of Mr. Garfield a political reward for the lawyer who served as the medium of communication, and was made to appear to have been successful in his mission.

Mr. John M. Forbes, whose address to young voters we noticed last week, says in it that "there is a division among the Republican party as to the use by the Administration of the money and services of office-holders," while there is no such division among the Democrats. It would, perhaps, be more correct to say that the proportion of Republicans opposed to such use is greater than the proportion of Democrats, because there are undoubtedly a large number of the best Democrats opposed to it. But when Mr. Forbes goes on to say that only "a certain small use of both" has been made by the Republicans in this campaign, we are sure he greatly underestimates. We believe as much use has been made of both as the Democrats could or would make were they in power. As much money certainly has been asked of the office-holders, whose salaries Mr. Forbes estimates at \$24,000,000 in the aggregate. If they paid what they have been asked for, it has fully equalled in amount their direct taxation, both State and Federal. We have seen a printed circular demanding \$17 from a poor letter-carrier, whose salary was only \$800, and another since the Indiana election demanding one per cent. of salary from everybody. We do not believe the managers have got nearly as much money as they demanded, however, because one result of Mr. Hayes's attempt at reform has been to infuse a little courage into the poor clerks. It is a shameful business throughout. The recognition it involves that the revenue belongs to one party, and that the income of the Government employees, which is unquestionably the property of poor and hardworked men, is taxable by party committees at discretion, is a national disgrace—a disgrace to our politics, our morals, and our religion, and a greater disgrace to the Republicans, for obvious reasons, than it would be to the Democrats.

Mr. Forbes complains that we did him injustice in our remarks on his letter last week in ascribing to him the opinion that the Treasury

would be used, in case the South got into power, "in a thousand ways" for the exclusive benefit of the Southern States. Mr. Forbes's exact words were (we did not profess to quote him textually): "There are a thousand ways in which the Treasury can be used for their [the Southern States'] benefit, after throwing out of account the danger of vexatious and unjust taxes." The construction we put on this was that Mr. Forbes did not mean partial taxation; he must have meant direct votes of money to be spent in some way at the South, or, in other words, roughly speaking, for the exclusive benefit of the South, although, of course, strictly speaking, what benefits one part of the country in some degree benefits all parts of the country. But if money spent in the South benefited other parts of the country much or directly, the advent of the South to power would not on this score be at all dangerous. If, on the other hand, it only benefited the North slightly or indirectly, as it would benefit Canada or England, it seems hardly too strong to describe the benefit to the South as exclusive benefit. But Mr. Forbes explains that he meant simply to express his belief that "the Southern oligarchy would get more than their share of the public-improvement fund, and, what is worse, would throw their weight in favor of a system of public improvements by the nation [which he considers a dangerous and injudicious system], and thus involve us in large national expenditure everywhere, of which the South, needing outside help, would get more than its share, while paying less than its share of the taxes." To this we reply, first, that the West and every part of the country in which capital is scarce do this very thing. Every Congressman tries to get money out of the Treasury every year for his "destrict," without the least reference to its share of the taxes. Secondly, that we do not see how Mr. Forbes reconciles the doctrine that the National Government should in making improvements take into account the amount of revenue collected at the *locus in quo* with the doctrine that this is a *National Government*. There is in this, it seems to us, a strong flavor of State sovereignty. A nation measures the public bounty by the needs of localities, and not by the amount it gets out of them. If this is a nation, the poverty of the South constitutes the strongest possible claim for assistance. If a confederacy, grants ought only to be made in proportion to receipts.

Mr. Edward Atkinson, of Boston, made a speech at Atlanta, Ga., a fortnight ago, in the Senate chamber, the most prominent State officials being present. After giving the audience a most dismal and plain-spoken sketch of their own condition under slavery, he said, among other things, that his own observations told him that "the progress of the colored people of the Atlantic States is one of the marvels of economic history." This, however, cannot be true, if we are to believe Mr. Sherman's and Mr. Dawes's account of the negro in those States, neither of whom, it must be admitted, has made any observations on the matter at all. Mr. Atkinson also put in a good or a bad word for the carpet-baggers by alleging that the majority of the white men in the carpet-bag legislatures which piled up the large State debts after the war, were natives. This, however, is not saying much for them, for, if we remember rightly, there were at one time only six whites in the South Carolina Legislature. The worst carpet-baggers were not in the legislatures, but devoted themselves to "manipulating," "mind-poisoning," and bond-peddling outside. Mr. Atkinson, whose address was mainly devoted to the methods of cotton culture and manufacture, also enforced in some very vigorous language the necessity to material prosperity of letting every man who came amongst them say his say without let or hindrance, and invited them, if they wanted to "jaw back," to come up to New England and "search out its weak places." The hardened and diabolical crowd, instead of precipitating themselves on the speaker with pistols and bludgeons, according to their nature as described by "staff correspondents," only laughed and cheered. He told a good story of an old colored man at Columbia, S. C., who accounted for the overthrow of the Chamberlain Government by saying that the reason was "dat you can't put ig'nance ober intelligence and make it stay."

The *Times* has not learned caution since its hasty adoption, through its Washington correspondent, of Marshal Fitzsimmons's account of the



cause of his "persecution" in Georgia. On Saturday it devoted the better part of a column to a despatch from the same quarter on behalf of "a persecuted freedman," by name Samuel Perry, who a year ago was a prominent leader in the negro exodus from North Carolina to Indiana. Extradition papers were served on Perry last week in the District to answer a charge of forging a school certificate in his native State, and Judge Cartter declined to go behind them, after ascertaining their regularity. Perry was accordingly remanded, but Judge Wylie here interposed by a writ of habeas corpus, and the case comes up for decision to-morrow. In the meantime the attempt to excite Northern sympathy is made by alleging that the real object of the "kidnapping" is to punish Perry for his part in the exodus, and the *Times* lends its columns for that purpose, as well, perhaps, as for campaign effect. Now, it clearly appeared from the testimony last winter before the Voorhees Committee that Perry, with one or two associates, "'worked up' the emigration" (we quote the *Times's* report of January 25) on business principles, receiving a drawback of one dollar per adult passenger over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and fifty cents for each child or half-fare, and that his choice of Indiana over Kansas, the original destination, was determined by the profits of this arrangement. He admitted on the stand that the circulars which he distributed were extravagant, and he gave the impression of being entirely open to mercenary motives. It was shown that he had suddenly left North Carolina in October on account of this charge of forgery, and he has stayed away ever since. In short, there is no reason for suspecting that he is the object of persecution, or for proclaiming in advance of his trial that he is innocent of the alleged offence.

The three weeks' session of the Episcopal General Convention in this city was remarkable for the complete disappearance of the vexed questions of ritual, liturgy, and doctrine that have agitated the discussions of its recent predecessors. The High-Church faction made no trouble, being probably perfectly content to be let alone, and the tenacity with which it clings to its beliefs and practices has become so notorious that the other parties have undoubtedly come to the conclusion that there is nothing to be gained by stirring it up. The Low-Churchmen as such had very little to say, and since the secession of the "Cheneyites" it is perhaps noticeable that they have not. The withdrawal of the Reformers, indeed, may be said to have had an ameliorating effect in several ways upon the general body. Their success, except in attaining the rewards of conscience, has not been brilliant enough to attract large accessions from the Low-Church party, and yet it has probably made ecclesiastical trials such as that of the Rev. Dr. Tyng, jr., more unlikely than ever. It is clear that the councils of the Church are dominated now mainly by those who call themselves "conservative churchmen," and by those who sympathize nearly with the English Broad-Church spirit, the number of whom is evidently increasing every year. As to liturgy, the changes proposed in the Convention were very mild compared with the dogmatic changes formerly discussed; they concerned modifying the Lectionary, adding a phrase to the Litany, and a petition for extempore prayers from the pulpit on certain occasions and under specified conditions. The first only was carried. On the other hand, distinctly moral and religious matters were debated with fervor, and various measures taken to forward the strictly evangelical work of the Church. If this has fallen behind that of other denominations heretofore it has perhaps been due to the subordination of the characteristics of the Convention just closed to what the laic mind is apt to regard as technical questions.

Colonel Higginson has answered, in the *Woman's Journal*, our request that he would discuss Gail Hamilton's defence of the "Ladies' Deposit" swindle in Boston in its bearing on the expectation that the entrance of women into the political arena would exert a purifying influence on politics. The answer is that the purifying influence argument "has now been so generally abandoned or subordinated that we need no further sins or follies of women to point the moral." It was Theodore Parker, he says, who started it, "but the whole tendency of later years has been to abandon it and rest the movement on firmer

grounds." The object of the woman's suffrage movement now, it appears, is not "to purify politics, but to establish justice." This may be the doctrine preached on Colonel Higginson's side of the *Woman's Journal*, but we fear he cannot read the writings of the other contributors with care or he would meet frequent instances of the use by them of the purification argument. In the very number in which his article appears, "H. B. B.," after pointing out that the *Nation* "has been betrayed by its prejudices into a still lower depth of idiocy" than the *Congregationalist*, maintains that Gail Hamilton's performance does not shake the purification argument, because she is an opponent of female suffrage and stands alone in defending the swindle, while fifty-seven other women, eminent in literature and journalism, advocate woman suffrage and deplore the swindle. He also calls attention to the fact that the great majority of criminals are men, and that only five per cent. of the convicts for swindling are women. It seems, therefore, that the purification argument is not so completely abandoned as Colonel Higginson supposes.

"H. B. B." does not seem to understand fully Gail Hamilton's position. Whether she advocates woman suffrage or not has nothing to do with her attitude towards the swindle. She is at any rate a prominent female political writer, and she has done what we maintain no male writer of any prominence has ever dared do, in publicly defending a swindle by which she was profiting, and asking the person who had exposed it to give his note of hand for the amount she lost by the exposure. This makes her position unique. Nobody, the week before she did it, or when she was abusing the civil-service reformers in the newspapers and writing books on woman's domestic wrongs, suspected for a moment that her mind worked in this way. Her performance, therefore, has spread alarm through the community about the other female lecturers and essayists. Men are asking whether any of the female contributors to the *Woman's Journal* may not any day advocate something which would break up the framework of society. But one short month ago Gail Hamilton seemed as sound about swindles as any of them. In fact, men's great objection to the entrance of the female mind into politics is drawn from a suspicion of its unsteadiness on matters in which the feelings could by any possibility be enlisted, and this objection draws support from a flagrant example of unsteadiness and obtuseness on the part not of an ordinary woman but a prominent "woman of intellect." It may be that it is unjust to keep women out of politics because they are unsteady, but to a great many men this consideration is a very powerful one; they prefer safety to abstract justice. They maintain that states were not built up and are not maintained by absolute equality of rights and duties, but by shrewdness and patience and good sense; and, in fact, talk about the whole thing in a most provoking and idiotic way. It was for the benefit of these absurd creatures that we desired to have the subject discussed.

The foreign specie imports during the week amounted to \$3,404,089, making the total receipts of the year \$49,944,917, against \$59,753,355 last year. The rates for foreign exchange at the close of the week did not warrant further imports. The New York banks, notwithstanding the heavy receipts of foreign coin and the Treasury disbursements, barely maintained their surplus reserve of something over \$3,500,000. Business in all departments was dull during the week. At the Stock Exchange prices continued to advance in anticipation of General Garfield's election. The purchase of railroad securities since the October elections, on the theory that they decided the Presidential contest, advanced during October the prices of the active stocks at the Stock Exchange from  $5\frac{1}{2}$  to 23 points, the percentage in some stocks being nearly 50 per cent. Whether General Garfield's election has been "discounted" remains to be seen. In London, British consols have advanced to  $99\frac{1}{4}$  and  $99\frac{5}{8}$ , the highest price for a long time. United States bonds there have been steady, but American railroad securities have generally advanced. The price of silver bullion in London has dropped to  $51\frac{1}{4}d.$  to  $51\frac{1}{8}d.$  per ounce; and the bullion value here of the "buzzard dollar" has fallen to less than  $86\frac{1}{2}$  cents.

## WHAT THE SOUTH HAD BETTER DO NOW.

AT this writing the result of the Presidential election is unknown, but whichever way it turns, the question what the South had better do in national politics is one of the last importance both for itself and for the whole country. If Hancock be elected it will be largely due to the fact that the North has not believed Republican predictions of the ascendancy of the South in Democratic councils. If, in case of his election, there is any sign that the South is disposed to use the Government for its own especial benefit, the reaction at the North against the Democrats will undoubtedly show itself in a very marked way at the next Congressional election, and General Hancock will pass his term as Johnson did, in a hopeless contest with a hostile Congress. It is undoubtedly the disgust and alarm inspired by the absorption of the Democratic majority during the last four years in legislation (whether justifiable or not) for the Southern benefit which has been gradually frittering that majority away, and giving the Republicans once more the power they lost under General Grant, and has enabled the "old set" to come out of their retirement and swagger once more in the light of day. If, on the other hand, Garfield be elected, and the South maintain its alliance with the Democrats, it will, of course, mean the continued exclusion of all Southern whites of character and ability from any share in the administration of the Government, and the exclusion of Southern opinion from all influence on public policy. The Southern say about finance, taxation, foreign affairs, Indian affairs, civil-service reform, and a host of other matters which are sure to come to the front before long, will count for as little during the next four years as it has during the past fifteen. In other words, the Government will be carried on still longer with an almost cultivated indifference to the opinions of three-fourths of the population of sixteen States, including the bulk of the property-holders. This is a most unfortunate situation, not for the South only but for the whole country. Is there no remedy for it?

Many Southerners—perhaps we should say most Southerners—like our correspondent in Memphis, Tenn., whose letter we print elsewhere, seem disposed to give way to despair, and to treat Northern hatred of the South not only as fact, but as one of the permanent forces of American politics, against which there is no use in struggling, and the removal or modification of which must be left to Providence. The sale of the *Tourgee* books; the change in the New York *Tribune*; the restoration to influence of Logan, Conkling, and Blaine, whose stock in trade has been composed exclusively of hatred of the South; the effect on Northern opinion of any man of the charge that he sympathizes with the South; the care taken by General Hancock's supporters to deny that he would if chosen President be under Southern influence, are all to him signs, and even proofs, that Northern dislike of the South is general and implacable. Now, we do not need to disclaim on the part of the *Nation* any sympathy with the attitude of the extreme or Stalwart Republicans towards the South. We have on this point expressed ourselves with sufficient explicitness during the past ten years. We believe the division between the North and South to be in large part due to the efforts of Republican politicians to maintain at the South a black party for the sake of the aid it would or might give them in Federal politics, and without the slightest regard to the mischief it might work in State politics. This policy has now, in our opinion, been pursued with more or less deliberation ever since 1865, and has, of course, had to be supported by vituperation of the Southern whites, and "stories," some true and some false, and some distorted and exaggerated, of their turbulence and cruelty. But after granting this, and granting too all the assertions made in our correspondent's letter, there remains for the South the exceedingly practical question: What is to be done about it? It is foolish to maintain, even if Northern hatred of the South exists, that it is universal and ineradicable. All that we said last week of the changeable character of political motives and conditions is just as true of the North as of the South. It is no more possible for the mass of the Northern people to maintain indefinitely towards the South the temper of 1861 or of 1870, than it is for the South to maintain its temper of those years towards the North. In fact, the North is a far more mobile and changeable society than the South; it has far less time for hatred, or revenge, or malice, or for brooding over

wrongs of any description. The Northern air is too full of hope and enterprise to indulge in much reflection on the rascality of enemies in any part of the globe. So that while it is undoubtedly true that a large body of Northern voters, especially of the older generation which carried on the war, cherishes distrust of the South as a sort of pious duty, and approaches outrage stories with a reverence and credulity which might almost be called religious, it is also true that a large and increasing body, especially of the younger generation, is thoroughly sick of the Southern question in all its aspects, and sick of the base uses to which Republican politicians have put it. This was shown very distinctly by the overthrow of the Grant school of politicians in 1874 and 1876, by the declining influence of the "bloody shirt" in elections, and by the defeat of the third-term scheme, which rested largely on the assumption that the South was still a public enemy.

Now, the problem before the South of dealing with this Northern resentment and prejudice and of overcoming it, and of securing a fair share in the conduct of the Government, was a thoroughly practical one. It was made clear very soon after the war was over that the Democratic party at the North was too weak both in numbers, in intelligence, in the press and in wealth, to make it possible for the South to secure restoration through alliance with it. It, moreover, very soon became apparent—say as early as 1872—that the Democratic party was too much discredited by its connection with slavery and secession to make it possible for it even to "turn over a new leaf," by taking up with strange candidates and new-fangled doctrines. It has been shown again and again that when the North was fairly roused it would not submit to Democratic rule, and that the Southern alliance was not strong enough to enable the party to overcome this repugnance. Under these circumstances, putting all sentiment aside and looking at the situation with the eye of the practical politician who seeks place and power solely, it seems to us as if the course of the South was plain enough. It might have sought to profit by the dissensions which as early as 1870 began to show themselves in the Republican party. It ought to have held out to the younger generation of Republicans, who remembered little of the war and were every year taking a more active part in affairs, some inducement to break loose from the party yoke and attempt some new political combination. It ought to have actively furnished those Republicans who were tired of the "bloody shirt" with arguments in support of the position that the Southern men were occupied with better things than cheating negroes out of their votes, and that their co-operation would be valuable in the settlement of the economical and administrative questions which, since 1873, have had so much importance for the whole country. It ought to have held out a hand, in short, to the Republican civil-service reformers, tariff reformers, railroad reformers, and others who were seriously interested in questions affecting the entire nation rather than any one part of it. In this way it would have promoted the disintegration of the Republican party, and the formation of some new organization in which the South could take part without loss of self-respect, and find some relief from that contemplation of "old unhappy far-off things" into which men whose hopes have been crushed are so apt to fall, but which is sure ruin for any school of politicians.

Unhappily, the South did not see fit to follow this course or anything like it. It has been prominent and influential in Congress since 1876, and used its prominence and influence, with curious obtuseness, in helping the Democrats to engage in legislation intended, as every one knew, for the benefit of the South exclusively, which was sure to revive Northern irritability, and which dealt with grievances that nothing but Northern irritability kept alive. It offered no help or encouragement to those Republicans, like ourselves, who were trying to abate Northern prejudice and hopelessness about the South. Nothing came from any Southern politician calculated to quicken the pulses of the younger Republicans with any fresh or generous emotion, or any expectation of a better political day. When the time came, too, for the friends of civil and constitutional government at the North to make a fight against the coarse and shabby Cæsarism which was concealed under the third-term scheme, and against the permanent lodgment of military ideas and methods in American polity, there came from the South no word of encouragement or sympathy that we have ever heard of. On the contrary, as soon as the Republican Convention



had nominated a man who, whatever his faults, was an experienced civilian, the Southerners joined the Democrats in setting up for the highest office in the Government a mere soldier, who owed *all* his fame to his success in killing Southerners in a civil war. It must be admitted that this is a somewhat disheartening story. We can tell it with the better grace because we are among the number of those who believe in the reality of Southern grievances, and also in the reality of Southern progress. But there is certainly nothing in the course of the South in Federal politics since the war to remind us of the skill with which Southern politicians for so many years ruled the North in defence of slavery. They fear and hate the Republican party, but do not see that it is at any time in their power to convert the Republican party into something very different from what it is, and to compel the Logans, Blaines, and Conklings either to give up abuse of the South, or go into obscurity.

#### THE "OUTRAGES" IN THE IRISH TROUBLE.

THE present agitation in Ireland, horrible as some of its features are, has not been in vain. The Irish land question has in consequence of it received through the English press a more thorough discussion than ever before, and there are, apparently, few if any Liberals who deny now that it differs from the English land question, and that the ideas of the great bulk of the Irish people about land tenures are entitled to recognition in legislation, even if they seem strange and repulsive to the English mind. It seems to have been at last made clear to that (in Irish matters, at least) not very receptive organ that the fact that the English landlord makes all the improvements on a farm before letting it, and keeps the fences and buildings in repair, while the Irish landlord does nothing but furnish the land, constitutes a very marked difference between the land systems of the two countries. It has also been established by all but conclusive evidence that it is customary, or at all events very common, for Irish landlords to raise their rents on account of improvements made by the tenant, in a manner which amounts to confiscation of the tenant's property; also that in all those districts and on those estates in which the tenant's property in his improvements is recognized as a salable interest, under the name of "tenant right" or good-will, the utmost content and good feeling between landlord and tenant prevail, and there is now no disturbance. Also that the arbitrary government of estates by rules which aim at controlling the tenant's way of living, and keeping him in social subjection to the landlord or his agent, which has been in vogue over most of Ireland for two hundred years, no matter what justification, or seeming justification, may be found for it in the faults of the tenantry, is no longer possible in our time and must be given up. The isolation of Ireland from the rest of the world, which so long helped to maintain this system, has passed away. The influence of the Irish in this country on manners and ideas at home has become very great, and it is, of course, hostile in the highest degree to the social system which the existing land tenure supports. The opinion of the whole of Europe, too, may be said to be running strongly against the deduction from contract of any relation but a commercial one, and to make the maintenance of any feudal view of the landowner's function increasingly difficult. Lord Lynton has written an interesting article in the last number of the *Nineteenth Century*, giving an account of the system introduced by his grandfather, Lord Portsmouth, on estates in the county of Wexford sixty years ago, and still in force, in which the absolute independence of the tenant as long as he pays his rent is a leading feature. He may farm well or ill, just as he pleases, and live and labor in all respects according to his own ideas, and if he wishes to dispose of his interest in the farm, which is always a thirty-one years' lease, he is welcome to do so, to the highest bidder. The practical result of this system is that, on the whole, the tenants, feeling that they are working for themselves, farm well, even if not up to the landlord's standard. But he is abundantly repaid for the surrender of his right of interference by the peace, content, and prosperity which reign on his estates. An ejectment for non-payment of rent hardly ever occurs, and even when it does occur the tenant is allowed to sell his interest all the same, but what he receives of course goes to pay his debts, the arrears of rent among the number.

Undoubtedly this discussion will not be as useful to the Ministry in Parliament when they attempt to deal with the land question next year as it would have been if there had been no outrages; but, on the other hand, there is much reason to fear that without the outrages the discussion would not have been so thorough. One of the great difficulties with which England has had to contend of late years in the government of Ireland lies in the different rhetorical standards of the two countries. The Englishman of to-day distrusts everybody who uses extravagant language, and pays no attention to him. The Irishman, on the other hand, feels that high coloring is necessary to make any impression at all, but has had abundant experience of the failure of his eloquence to bring Englishmen to any adequate sense of his wrongs. The result is a constant temptation to supplement the speeches with crime, and unfortunately this does undoubtedly impress the English public. They are not moved by the hyperboles and picturesque similes in which Irish grievances are usually dressed up, but murder and arson they understand and are roused by. There was much melancholy truth in Mr. Gladstone's admission, which made so much uproar last year, that it was the attempt to blow up the Clerkenwell prison which led indirectly to the passage of the Land Act of 1870 and the disestablishment of the Irish Church.

It was a truth, too, of which there are several other illustrations. Catholic Emancipation was not accorded until the country was on the verge of civil war, and the same thing may be said of the abolition of the tithes. O'Connell sternly repressed "outrages" and denounced all violence during the Repeal agitation, but he accomplished nothing. It is not wonderful that with these examples before them the Parnellites should believe that the only way to obtain a settlement of the land question, which in one form or another has now been pending for nearly two hundred years, is to strike terror. Turbulence and violence have led to the righting of some Irish wrongs; nothing else has done so. Such is the lesson with which the history of his country for the last century has furnished the Irish peasant, and it is not surprising that he acts on it. Even in the days before the Catholics appeared on the scene at all, the Protestant colonists were obliged to seek their legislative independence by embodying a large armed force, and threatening the English Government when it had both a French and an American war on its hands. This unfortunate state of things has been aggravated by the prevailing English ignorance of Irish history. Irish history is by no means attractive reading. A more dismal, and in many ways repulsive, history no country of the western world has to show. It describes no contribution whatever to the stream of European progress. Whatever Irishmen have done for the world either in arts or arms has been done either through England or some other foreign country. The consequence is that the history of the country has had no place in any system of education or culture. As occasionally reproduced in a form to suit English tastes, by men like Mr. Froude, it has presented the Irish people in the guise of a vicious and turbulent tribe whom it was the mission of England to thrash into civilization—a view which, ever since the conquest of India made the "inferior races" so prominent in English politics, has been a peculiarly grateful view which even the most philanthropic and religious Englishmen only put away from them by a hard struggle. It came into play in Irish politics at a most unfortunate period, when the earlier Cromwellian theory, that the Irish were a parcel of Popish cut-throats, was fast dying out, and when they were just beginning to display in the freer air of the present century that remarkable political tenacity which now makes them so troublesome to the English legislator, and has raised the Irish question into the first rank of state problems. There is no more striking political phenomenon of our time than this tenacity. No race in Europe has been reduced by conquest to a lower stage of degradation and poverty than the Irish Celts. Nevertheless, they have not died out before the conquering people. On the contrary, they have multiplied enormously. Nor have they become merged with their conquerors or accepted their ideas. On the contrary, they have, generation after generation, opposed a fanatical resistance to every attempt to absorb them into the British Empire. They have emigrated by millions, and have carried with them everywhere an almost furious sentiment of nationality, although they have never formed a nation, and a singularly active interest in politics, such as has perhaps nowhere been witnessed

among people who have had so little political training, even such as local self-government gives, and whose reliance on leaders in politics has been so great. If this interest could be in any way made to inure to the benefit of the British Empire it cannot be denied that it would prove a new and valuable source of strength. Mr. Gladstone has done more towards this consummation than any other English statesman. If he can make it sure, it will be the greatest achievement of recent British history.

#### THE STATE OF PARTIES IN FRANCE.

PARIS, October 17, 1880.

THE parliamentary session will begin in a few days, and will be a particularly important one, for it is the last of the present Legislature, whose term expires next October at the latest, and very likely the general elections will take place before that time. Everything will give way to this great preoccupation, for it is impossible to conceal the influence which the future Chamber will have on the destiny of the Republic, and the formation of it gives much uneasiness. Permit me to undertake a slight sketch of the state of parties on the eve of the opening of Parliament, before the renewal of those ardent struggles which will not fail to break out in a few days.

Besides the great divisions between the Right and Left many secondary groups may be remarked, whose importance ought not to be judged by the noise they make, but by the echo they obtain in the country. Rather than characterize them in a general way I prefer to define their real influence at the present time. Concerning the Right we shall be brief, for that party has but little weight in the Chamber's deliberations. The first reason of this powerlessness is that for the time being, especially since the elections in August for the Councils-General, they have lost all consideration in the country. They have not recovered from the defeat of the attempt they made on the 16th of May, 1877. Besides this, the Right is greatly divided. The Legitimists, who have just celebrated the fête of their king by numerous banquets, at which the Government allowed them free scope, well knowing their insignificance, cannot pardon the Orleanists, who still sit in the Chamber of Deputies, for having refused to accept the white flag. Moreover, the monarchical party have just experienced a great annoyance: of the few generals who belong to them, one, General de Cissey, former president of the Cabinet Council and Minister of War in 1874, in the palmy days of moral order, has just been disgraced in the famous trial about the alleged information sent to Prussia respecting our plans of military reorganization. The accused was a young Republican officer, but he has been entirely exonerated, and it has been proved that General de Cissey took advantage of his position to gratify a shameful passion, not to betray France, but to heap iniquitous favors on a miserable woman who, we have every reason to suppose, was a paid spy. These revelations have produced considerable excitement, more particularly as the unfortunate general had rendered himself conspicuous by his devoutness. I need not revert to the incurable divisions of the Bonapartist faction; they are more and more evident every day. On Sunday, October 17, M. Paul de Cassagnac presided at a large meeting directed against Prince Napoleon. The Right have, however, one chance in their favor—the irritation produced in some parts of the country by those unlucky decrees which are thorns in the side of the Republic. They may also become dangerous in Parliament by voting for all the extreme motions of the radical Left, in order to put a spoke in the wheel of the Republican government. They do all they can to disturb the water in the hope of making a miraculous haul.

The Extreme Left will not be any stronger at the next session, for they have made no recruits in the partial elections during the vacation. They endeavor to compensate for their weakness by noise, and it may be taken for granted they will make more than ever. They do not speak in the Chamber, but appeal to the country, or rather to the radical masses of our large towns; their support is entirely in these. Unhappily, the Municipal Council of Paris belongs wholly to the Extreme Left, and if it evinces a certain aptitude in dealing with the pecuniary affairs of our large city, it is decidedly intemperate in politics and takes pleasure in the most extravagant things, especially in what concerns religion, which it pursues with hatred. It amuses itself by constantly changing the names of the Paris streets, striking out all those which recall old France and its glories or some religious reminiscence, and replacing them by names either obscure, ridiculous, or revolutionary, to the great annoyance of the inhabitants. It has just commenced another of these changes which upset all one's habits. The greatest injury to the Extreme Left comes from their outside allies, who push extravagance to its utmost limits. I have spoken enough about Rochefort. For the time being he is quite eclipsed by Félix Pyat, one of the proscribed brothers of the Commune, who files down and polishes his writings like an ornamental dagger. This comparison is inevitable, for he unceasingly preaches assassination in his journal, *La Commune*. He has opened a subscription to present a fancy

dagger to Berezovski, now a convict, for having attempted to assassinate the Czar at the Universal Exhibition of 1867. The Government has decided to prosecute this shameless defender of regicide. While acknowledging that Félix Pyat far surpasses the party designated as the Extreme Left, we can but observe that the Extreme Left have too much affinity with the advanced radical parties, as seen by the excuses for the Commune published in their newspapers. The Left, properly speaking, is divided into Left Centre, Left "*sans phrases*," and the "*Union Républicaine*," the group long directed by M. Gambetta, who is the axis of the majority. The old Thiersists have united themselves with the Left, and are less remarked than the Republican Union, which is, upon the whole, moderate in everything concerning social questions, opposed to socialistic chimeras, but very ardent in the contest against clericalism. On this point it is not possible to effect a compromise with them. At the present time no influence equals M. Gambetta's with the Republican Union. One of the reasons, however, which prevent him from at once taking office is that this majority is not easy to discipline, and Gambetta does not think he should have sufficient support from them to be able to give a firm, well-prosecuted direction to politics. He attributes this instability or incoherence to the manner of recruiting the Chamber, which is elected by district ballot, thus making the deputies subject to local influences on which their fate depends. The important side in politics being often effaced by the petty preoccupations of class prejudices, Gambetta earnestly desires to have all the deputies of a department voted for on a general ticket in place of the district ballot. He hopes that a Chamber so constituted would better obey the inspirations of a leader and would conform more easily to a grand, united political programme. You know that a proposition of this kind has already been introduced in the Chamber.

The most serious discussions of the coming session will be on this subject. Gambetta has against him all the Extreme Left, who fear nothing so much as to see his influence increase, and they desire to ruin him by every possible means. He has against him the electoral interests of the present deputies, who would find it very convenient to preserve their districts. They have made their beds with great care and would like to lie down in them instead of being exposed to the risk of a larger election, which would make them lose the advantages of their local influence, maintained with so much labor. Gambetta will have to descend from the presidential chair and throw the weight of his eloquence into the scale. I do not doubt that he would be victorious, for he would employ all his tact, skill, and energy to win this great political game, on which, according to him, all his future depends. No doubt, if he succeeds, he will not hesitate to take office at the opening of the new Parliament, and then will be the time for him to show what he is as a statesman in power, whether he can contain factions at home and reassure Europe in his foreign policy. It would be very desirable for the present Ministry to remain in office until the next elections. It is favorably regarded in Europe. Its chief, M. Jules Ferry, is a clever, energetic, eloquent man. It cannot be denied, however, that this minister, like his predecessors, will be at the mercy of a defeat from the majority in a Chamber, both unstable and impassioned, where he is not recognized as the veritable leader. Let us hope he will avoid these dangers and be able to preside over the formation of a new Chamber. With respect to the Senate, we may be sure they will support the present Ministry. The attempt which was made to suppress it met with no response in the country. When you receive this letter the last session of the existing Chamber will be about to commence, and we shall soon learn whether my surmises will be realized. É.

#### THE "DEMONSTRATION" AGAINST TURKEY.

PARIS, October 14, 1880.

THE doors of the temple of Janus have been half opened, but they are suddenly shut again. The demonstration made against Dulcigno ended in a total failure. The Montenegrins were not willing to attack the little fortified town, defended as it was by the Albanians and by the regulars of Riza Pasha. The "*Prince of the Mountain*," as Prince Nicholas of Montenegro is called, had often said that every one of his mountaineers, that the children even, and the women, were ready to fight at all times against the Turk; but when the allied fleet was before Dulcigno the mountaineers showed as much prudence and discretion as if they had been born in the flattest plains. Prince Nicholas asked Admiral Seymour to land some troops and to give the signal of attack against Dulcigno. The signal was not given and could not be given. A landing of troops was not in the programme of the "*demonstration*." Meanwhile the weather became bad on the coast of the Adriatic, and the fleet had to return to the Bocche di Cattaro. Not a shot had been fired on the Albanian coast, and the demonstration had demonstrated nothing except the impotence of the allied Powers.

The Porte had sent a note to the great Powers, in which she explained that she would only give up Dulcigno if all idea of an armed demonstration was abandoned. She pronounced herself ready in that case to make propositions concerning the new Greek frontier and the reforms in Armenia, in the



course of time. This note was considered as insolent in the last degree, especially as the last Conference at Berlin had had no other object than the settlement of the Greek frontier. All the western diplomats, with the help of geographers and officers of the staff, had drawn a line to the north of Janina and Metsovo, and the Porte now quietly said that she could only adopt a line to the south of these two cities. In fact, this note of the Sultan's, in conjunction with the resistance of Dulcigno, seemed like a gauntlet flung boldly down to the western Powers. War became almost imminent, and the suddenness of the peril caused great consternation in all Europe. People began to ask themselves who could be the inspirer of the Sultan, for they could not believe that, left to himself, he would have been so imprudent as to defy all Europe. The advantage of a sudden crisis consists in dispelling in an instant the diplomatic fogs which at first surround every question. It soon became apparent that the common understanding, and the common action which had begun with the demonstration against Dulcigno, really covered two opinions, two policies—I might almost say two virtual alliances. On one side stood Prussia and Austria, on the other England, France, and Russia. By a strange combination of circumstances, England, who had always opposed the plans of Russia in the East, who had fought for the integrity of the Ottoman Empire, was now in the front of the battle, more ardent than Russia against the Turks. She seemed to resent the insult of Dulcigno more than anybody else. An English admiral had commanded the allied fleet. Mr. Gladstone, who had taken the place of the Tories, was determined to execute the will of Europe, to give that shock to the glass of the Ottoman Empire which must bring about a fracture on the line which had been marked by the diplomatic diamond at Berlin.

There is not much doubt that at the outset England prepared herself for every emergency. Many measures were discussed which were of a very violent character; but could England enter alone upon the terrible future—"dans le sombre avenir," to use the words of an old poet? No, she was morally sure of the sympathies of Russia if once she began war against Turkey; she knew that the frontier between Bulgaria and Rumelia, which was of her own making, was merely artificial; she knew that the Russian armies would easily cross again the Danube and the Balkans. But she was more anxious to have French co-operation than Russian. The English Government, or at least some members of this Government, entertained the hope that France, after ten years of rest, with magnificent finances, with a large army, would like, perhaps, to try her growing strength, and to try it with a sufficient degree of safety, with the powerful alliance of England and Russia. The temptation was undoubtedly great for a French statesman; he would have been a bold prophet who should have predicted in 1870 that in 1880 France could again take the lead in Europe, and would have on her side the moral and material forces not only of England but of Russia. Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Forster, Sir Charles Dilke, and others thought that if Napoleon III. had found it to his advantage to enter into a close alliance with England, the young French Republic would perhaps promise herself the benefits which the second French Empire reaped from this alliance. There have been undoubtedly some men in France in high places who, moved by the most patriotic motives, have hesitated, have thought that they had better not reject the forces which Providence placed at the disposal of France. The words of the Cherbourg speech had not been without an echo in many hearts, in the army and out of the army. But the general state of public opinion has not allowed the desires, the designs, the aspirations of the most active minds to be satisfied. France had been carefully taught by the press for ten years that she must "se recueillir," remain alone, shut up in a determined policy of peace and of non-intervention; she had been taught to mistrust all foreign powers; she had been told repeatedly that England and Russia and Italy had no pity for her misfortunes, that her blood was no longer to be shed "for an idea," that there was no "question" for her except the question of Alsace-Lorraine. The lessons had gone all the deeper into all hearts because the memories of the late war were still vivid, and because the sufferings of the invasion were remembered in every village, in every city, in every household. France did not much mind the congresses and conferences to which her ambassadors were sent, as it were, "en parade"; she did not believe that anything serious could come of it. As soon as Eastern affairs seemed to involve our responsibility there was a universal protest; the papers of all shades, of all opinions, became pacific "with a vengeance." There was but one important paper, the *République Française*—which is supposed to be inspired by the President of the Chamber of Deputies—that advocated the continuance of a common action with England; and even this paper dared not show distinctly whither this common action might lead the country. The English Government exercised a strong pressure upon those whom it supposed capable of affecting the public mind in France; the incense which was once burnt for Napoleon III., when he could lead with one word the armies of France, was all ready to burn for those who should help England strike a heavy blow in the East. England would not believe that it was not in the power of the President of the French Republic to declare war in the absence of the Chambers; the French diplomats in vain assured her that there was an Article 9 in one

of our constitutional laws which said that the President can only declare war with the formal assent of the two Chambers. The English ministers wished to see the text of the Constitution; and, strangely enough, the English ambassador in Paris could not procure it. The fact is that it does not exist in the form of a book or a little pamphlet; there were a few copies of the constitutional laws printed for the National Assembly at Versailles in 1875, and they were only given to the deputies. Since that time no bookseller has had the idea of reprinting the collection of laws which form our Constitution, for the use of the public.

There were, only a few days ago, still two currents in the present Cabinet: a few of its members, who receive more directly the inspirations of the President of the Chamber of Deputies, would probably not have been unwilling to try a policy of intervention in the East; but the majority of the Council, drawing their inspiration from public opinion at large, took such a pacific attitude that it soon became evident that all idea of an active policy must be abandoned. The French ambassador in London informed Mr. Gladstone's Government last Saturday that France would join in no demonstration or occupation in the East, either at Smyrna or elsewhere. This step seemed almost natural, as the news had just arrived that the Sultan, having successfully resisted the armed menaces of Europe, was now willing to surrender Dulcigno to the Montenegrins. Whoever advised the Sultan in this circumstance gave him very good advice. By surrendering Dulcigno after the departure of the allied fleet the Sultan shows some deference for the will of Europe, and at a small price places himself in a position which will enable him to be much more free with regard to the pretensions of the Greeks. He unties the two Montenegrin and Greek questions; the first may be now considered as solved; and Europe has not cut such a good figure in her last "demonstration" that she will be very anxious to "demonstrate" again for the Greeks. Europe was brought face to face with the fearful dangers which were hidden under the "common action"; the goddess Bellona showed her profile only, and it was found that nobody was very willing to follow her. France will sink again into a policy of non-intervention, but she will be still more careful not to tie her hands even diplomatically. Russia will have learned that she has not much to expect from distant western allies, and she will fall back on the old policy which led to the partition of Poland. Germany, without moving, without effort, has been the real arbiter in the late events; she has taken the Sultan under her dangerous protection, she has obtained from him the surrender of Dulcigno, and she will probably be called upon to fix the new frontier of Greece, by a sort of arbitration which nobody in Europe will be willing or able to dispute.

## Correspondence.

### THE "RESTORATION" OF ST. MARK'S.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In response to the appeal in your columns for the St. Mark's Preservation Society, I should like to say that owing to the agitation made over the so-called demolition last winter I went to Venice and carefully examined with the architect the plans and the work done and to be done, and can assure your readers and the admirers of the great Basilica that they may save their money for better uses, as nothing has been done or is contemplated to be done at Venice which the ruinous state of the church does not make imperative, if the walls are not to fall into what most of the agitators seem to fancy to be the proper state of an old church—viz., a picturesque ruin. With one single modification, in which a return was made from a sixteenth-century vulgarism to the original plan, the original design has been carefully retained in every detail, and as far as possible the original stone put back into the original position, but in some cases the marble veneer has been absolutely dissolved away by the elements or decomposed into chalky rubbish. In every case where a stone, column or slab, cornice or casing could be returned to its place even by turning it, it has been done, and of carved work of any kind almost none has been lost. Some parts of the façade are now so decayed, and the brick-work underneath so split and disintegrated, that the facing is only kept in its place by timbers and iron bars, which disfigure the church more than the repairs, and unless the foundations are strengthened the west façade menaces splitting and falling apart. It may not be realized by the "preservers" of St. Mark's that the whole edifice is slowly sinking into the mud on which it is built, but sinking unequally, so that in one case a pier has gone down twenty-two centimetres, owing to the entirely inadequate foundation on which the church was built originally. One door-way is now, but for the struts and bars that keep it up, in utter ruin and must be taken down soon or it will fall of itself, and other parts will be taken down and reconstructed on new brick-work as soon as necessity arises, but no sooner. The whole body of the building is brick-work, and the brick very poor and soft, while in the laying of it sticks were put in to strengthen temporarily the work, but as these are now only ashes and dust they leave the masonry very weak.

brick-work that is failing, not merely the stone veneering which contains the artistic wealth of the church, though that in some cases is quite crumbling and falling off.

Your readers may be assured that everything which reverence and painstaking can do to keep the old work from destruction, and to maintain the edifice in its present state, will be done, but that it will not (to please painters who prefer painting old architecture, *the more decayed the better*, to restored) be allowed to acquire picturesqueness at the expense of its architectural keeping and preservation as a whole. The great outcry had its origin in total ignorance of what was proposed to be done, of what needed to be done, and what had already been done—a foolish scare by some one who had seen the mosaics crumbling to pieces, and, like Henny Penny, on whose tail the sky fell, went about alarming the world with cries that the cathedral was being demolished. A more senseless and gratuitous excitement was never got up by any one, and as long as the church is under the care of the present architect, Meduna, we need have no fear that harm will be done for want of reverence of it or wanton reconstruction.—Yours truly,

W. J. STILLMAN.

FLORENCE, October 18.

#### MATTERS IN VIRGINIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The conflict in Virginia between the old "Conservative" party and the new party under General Mahone must be peculiarly interesting to a student of history. He sees a phase of affairs which has occurred many times in the past, and recognizes an epoch in the progress of ideas, limited though it may seem in comparison with some others. It is, however, far from insignificant, and means nothing less than that revolution which had to come in the South as fulfilment of the work done in the war. It means the downfall of leaders who have not entered into the spirit of modern advancements, and have supported them only in so far as they were compelled. It means new men and more liberal ideas. The true issue in this, as in all revolutions, is almost hidden in talk of temporary questions; but there are men who see it very clearly, and that the people have a feeling beyond taxes is shown in frequent county resolutions, and in the constant use of the term "Bourbonism." But a question so intangible as that implied in this word cannot move the masses, upon whom revolutions depend. The great leaders in the world have not accomplished their work by discussing with their followers inner questions involved which could not have been comprehended. Mass-leading requires something more definite; and the pity is that in Virginia, just at this time when the masses needed to be led, the requisite definiteness has presented itself in a form so unworthy as the forcible readjustment of the public debt. Many do not believe, however, that the creditors of Virginia will be really affected. This can hardly be hoped; but it is likely that in the State, with the liberal party in power (as will surely be the case whatever the result in the present national contest), there will be rapid improvement, material as well as intellectual, and that whatever readjusting may be done will not be to the extent that the leaders of the old party would have the world believe. Even these, though they cannot understand the real issue, feel that the debt question is not at the bottom. They generally attribute the whole movement to the selfishness of General Mahone, whom they hate as heartily as the Cavaliers did Cromwell. This hatred is more than political: it is the hatred of a party aristocratical in its notions, full of sentimental foggyism, and blind to liberality of thought and speech.

Said a Funder the other day to another who jokingly asserted himself a Readjuster: "You are too much of a *gentleman* for that." He did not underscore the word, but he could not have expressed more innocently and briefly the sentiment of his party and the true secret of the whole matter. This is an old war which is going on now in Virginia. D.

OCTOBER 30, 1880.

#### DO THE NORTHERN PEOPLE HATE THE SOUTHERN?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The last number of the *Nation* quotes an extract from Mr. Schurz's recent speech at the Cooper Union, and recommends it to the careful consideration of every Southern voter and politician. The whole force of his utterance depends upon the truth of the assumption that "the people of the North cherish no ill-will towards them"—i.e., the Southern people. If the people of the North do cherish ill-will towards them, then Mr. Schurz does not call upon the South to lay aside all sense of grievance which springs from that fact. The people of the North, it is true, may cherish no ill-will towards the South, but I affirm, without fear of serious contradiction, that there are not one hundred Southern white men in each Southern State who believe this; and the number I select is not merely for the sake of the conventional comparison. These are a few of the causes which produce this belief:

The Republican party is a representative of Northern principles and interests, its long lease of power to Northern support. In spite of the

fact that a systematic disregard of Southern rights was one of its main features, and in spite of the fact that during eight years, at least, they managed the affairs of the Government so inefficiently and dishonestly as to cause these eight years to be a term of reproach in the *Nation's* vocabulary of political phrases, they finally lost control of power only by an almost impotent majority. In spite, also, of the disreputable procedure of the Republican returning boards and visiting statesmen during the Presidential contest of 1876, they are apparently on the eve of a more overwhelming victory than they have gained since the war. All of this might be attributed to the ordinary results of political forces when brought into play. Other points will not admit of this interpretation.

The two books of which more copies have been sold than any others ever known to American booksellers were both directed against the South. The effect of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' was but natural, coming as it did at a time when the evils it described were still in existence and still needed reform. The people of the South having finally been brought to a recognition of the horrors of slavery mainly through the agency of the Republican party, being also thankful that it no longer exists, look upon 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' as a legitimate factor in a beneficent movement. If the prejudice and positive ill-will entertained by the North towards the South had become extinct as the peculiar cause of its origin disappeared, the 'Fool's Errand' would have been read as we now read Longfellow's tragedy of 'Giles Corey,' and certainly not more widely. But the 'Fool's Errand' is a book written by an author of wonderful power, and teaching the old lesson of Southern pride, arrogance, brutality, cruelty to the negro, intolerance of free discussion, and hatred of the North in a manner more artful than it has ever been taught before. Northern dislike of the South, therefore, finds its most exquisite gratification and expression in the 'Fool's Errand,' and the 'Fool's Errand' was written fifteen years after the evils it described had passed away. It is to this fact that the South attributes the success of the 'Fool's Errand.'

Mr. Schurz says the demonstration of ill-will towards the South on the part of Northern politicians is merely stage-thunder. Now, newspapers do not depend for their subscriptions upon Republican politicians. Their popularity in the main is owing to the fact that they reflect the opinions and advocate the interests of their readers. The New York *Tribune* was at one time a paper liberal in its treatment of sectional questions. The New York *Tribune's* position towards the South to-day is too well known to need description. The intensity of its hostile feeling towards the South defies the characterization of the most powerfully descriptive adjectives. The Cincinnati *Gazette* is its Western reflection.

You say in one of your editorials that politicians like Senators Conkling and Blaine "manage conventions dextrously, but they do not manage a party so as to give it success at the polls." The four men who since the war have been most distinguished for their passionate abuse of the South have been all Senators—Morton, Chandler, Conkling, and Blaine. Two died in office and the other two are universally admitted to be the leaders of the Republican party. These men were elected, not by the people at the polls, amid the excitement and restless turmoil that ever attend a popular election, but by those from whom, if from any body of men, liberality of sentiment was most naturally to be expected. Their stage-thunder appears to the South to be more popular than the genuine lightning and ram. It cannot be answered that the election of these men was brought about by other causes. They are and were nothing if not vituperative.

The Northern press and Northern orators always speak of the advent of Southerners to office as a grandson of Noah might have alluded to another deluge. An insinuation by a political opponent that they are "playing into the hands of Southern rebels" is met with indignant denial. As an offset to your quotation from Mr. Schurz's speech, allow me to offer one from a speech by General Sherman, made a few months ago, in reply to an allegation that West Point was under Southern influence. "What nonsense!" he exclaimed, "nothing can be more absurd! Why, General Schofield, Colonel Lascelle, and the other heads of the Academy are all Northern men, thoroughly imbued with Northern sentiments, views, and ideas. This charge is like the rest, purely fictitious, and existing only in the fertile imagination of the newspaper writers." To a Southerner it does not appear that Southern influence at West Point would be a very lamentable national calamity.

The South either has or it has not an equal right to take part in the administration of Federal affairs. The North says it has not, and the South attributes this denial to the continued vitality of Northern hatred engendered by the war. We have expressly said we accept cheerfully and gladly the freedom of the negro. The right of secession has but one living advocate in the South, named Robert Toombs. Notwithstanding this, we are still rebels, and the most liberal mind in the North cannot contemplate without secret dismay the possibility of the administration of Federal affairs passing into Southern hands. Even those who know the absurdity of the usual charges against the South regard us as too illiterate to be able to carry on the Government in a respectable manner. Every Federal office in the South is occupied by a Republican, and in nearly every instance by a Northern Republican.



Judicial positions are invariably filled by Republicans. There is no reason why Democrats should be selected, but certainly none why Republicans as such should be, except that Northern sentiment demands and sustains it. The people of the North are sincere in their conviction that these are things with which the South has no legitimate concern.

You quote from the *Sun*, a Democratic paper, but less Democratic than Northern. It says—in your extract—that Hancock's Administration "will be as free from the rule of the rebels as from the rule of the Czar of all the Russias."

You congratulate the country on the fact that Southern outrages and the Solid South have been finally consigned to the lumber-room of worn-out political tools. There is surely ground for congratulation, but the satisfaction of the South is somewhat dampened by the reflection that the war closed in 1864, virtually, and that this is the year 1880. In addition to this we are not yet prepared to believe that the millennium of political tolerance has come. So sure are Southern Republicans of Northern readiness to believe ill of the South that their speeches are all directed to the one end of calling forth some expression of indignation, in order to become famous at the North as an additional martyr in the cause of Southern regeneration.

The manifestations of dissatisfaction which appeared throughout the North at the census reports of the increase of Southern population and prosperity were certainly neither noble nor magnanimous.

These are only a few of the points which suggest themselves as proof that the North does cherish ill-will towards the South. It would not be difficult for the South to find a philosophical explanation of this hatred—an explanation which would please Buckle himself. But the explanation would not lessen the reality of the fact that the North hates the South. The expression "hate" implies a great deal, but not too much when treating of Northern sentiment towards the South. Mr. Schurz's statement does very well, as such, but the object of the remark is only to influence Southern action, and Southern action can only be influenced by conclusive proof that his statement is true. If history proves anything, the history of the last fifteen years proves that the North wishes the negro to rule the South. The negro is the only element of Southern society which would act in unison with the North in those matters where Northern and Southern interests are antagonistic. There has been no period during the last nineteen years when Northern troops have not been in Southern States, when the Government has been in the hands of Republicans. This was natural during four years of that time; it was very unnatural for the following ten. As soon as the Democrats came into power the troops were withdrawn. Mr. Hayes withdrew them, but the Democratic party was the cause. They were not withdrawn until a belated Northern sentiment had been partially aroused to the iniquity of Republican misrule. Those who had been most disreputable of all in the States where they had been upheld by the troops immediately went North, and were lionized or were provided with comfortable salaries everywhere *except in the North*. The South has no assurance that a return of Republicans to power does not mean a return of Northern troops to some Southern States; at least the two ideas are associated in the mind of the South, in spite of the pooh-poohs of those who send Mr. Hoar, Mr. Conkling, and Mr. Blaine to Washington as Senators. The grievances of the South may be imaginary but the unanimity of belief in the South that they are not imaginary is astounding. The Solid South is an evil, no doubt, as the South is most ready to admit, but the Solid South will end when there has ceased to be what Henry Waterson called the Stolid North. The South can only say to Mr. Schurz that, as much as the fact is to be regretted, his statement quoted above is an expression solely of his own generous liberality of mind, and is not an expression of Northern sentiment.

MEMPHIS, TENN., Oct. 23, 1880.

J—S P—N.

#### EXPLANATION OF I HAD RATHER GO AND SIMILAR IDIOMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: At least five and twenty years have elapsed since I worked out, though with the help of much less evidence than I now possess, the historical-grammatical justification of the expressions referred to; and, in the meantime, I have looked about me diligently to see whether any one had forestalled me in what I have to say in their defence. As far as I am aware, no one has done so.

I have by me, and intend shortly to print, a brief essay on the phrases in question. From that essay I here give a few extracts, exclusively relating to the collocations "I had rather go," "they had rather be fined than punished," etc., or, more distinctly, collocations in which *rather* comes between *had* and an infinitive.

Besides *rather*, circumstanced as above, and so circumstanced by rights or otherwise, we find *liefer*, *liefest*, as *lief*, as *good*, *like*, *better*, *best*, as *well*, as *soon*.

Expressions such as "I have liefer go," "I had liefer go," are the oldest

members of the group to which they belong. Their precursors were "me is liefer go," "me was liefer go," "me were liefer go." In all these cases, *liefer* is an adjective, meaning "preferable"; and *me*, where it occurs, is a dative.

Exactly parallel to "I had liefer go" is "I had rather go." An elucidation of the latter therefore dispenses me from dwelling on the former.

In certain constructions, *ἐχεν* (in post-classical use), *habere*, *avere*, *habere*, *avoir*, and *haben*, signify "deem," "rate," "hold," "regard," "consider," "account," or the like. In other words, these verbs, originally possessive, have come to be factitive. To them we are to add our *have*. Sir John Fastolf wrote, about 1449: "If the place that is beside Walsyngham stand cler, I have hit lever then [*i.e.*, I hold it to be more desirable than] the tother." *Paston Letters* (ed. 1872-1875), vol. i., p. 94. "To be *had* in reverence" and "*had* in honor" we are familiar with from the Bible; and such modes of speech, though slightly quaint, are by no means yet obsolete.

*Had*, as equivalent to "should have," "would have," emerged in our language as far back, at least, as the eleventh century.

*Rather*, the comparative of *rathe*, "speedy," "hasty," "early," etc., at first had the significations to be expected from those of its positive, or "speedier," "hastier," "earlier," "prior," "former," "older."

That this adjective must, at some time, have denoted "preferable," might almost certainly have been inferred from the adverb *rather*, in phraseology such as "I would have this *rather* than that," *i.e.*, "I would have this *preferably* to that." And it actually once was a synonym of *preferable*, notwithstanding the silence, on this point, of lexicographers and grammarians. Proofs are subjoined.

The first that I shall adduce occurs in an anonymous poem, supposed to date before 1430, found at pp. 86, 87, of *Hymns to the Virgin and Christ*, etc. (1867):

"It is *rathe* to bileeve the waginge winde  
Than the chaungeable world that makith men so blinde."

The second is from Bishop Pecock's *Repressor*, written about 1456: "And, certis, in such aventure, it were *rather* to truste to the conscience and discrecion of him which is in state of a reuler, than to the conscience of hem whiche ben in the state of hem that ben to be reulid." Vol. ii., p. 393.

The third is from Lord Berners's translation of Froissart, executed in the time of Henry VIII.: "For I had *rather* the welth [*i.e.*, welfare] of hym that hath maryed my doughter, than of hym that never dyd nothyng for me, though I have maryed his suster." Vol. i., p. 41 (ed. 1812).

In the anonymous *Therzyles*, which appeared a few years after Lord Berners's death in 1532, is the verse:

"I thincke thou haddest *rather* alyve to be flayne."

Even in the days of James I., the consciousness that *rather* meant "preferable" lingered on. This signification of the word is pretty plainly recognized by Edward Brerewood (d. 1613), who writes: "Had the Apostles *rather* a man should perish of famine than be relieved of his owne?" *A Second Treatise of the Sabbath* (1632), p. 17. *Had* is, with some probability, a strict preterite here; the sense then being: "Did the Apostles hold it to be better," etc.

"I had rather go," to be construed "I should deem going more eligible," is, therefore, simply a way that obtained, in older English, of expressing "I should think it better that I went," or "I somewhat prefer to go."

Your obedient servant,

FITZEDWARD HALL.

MARLESFORD, Sept. 1, 1880.

In my letter which you printed on the 10th of last June, I quoted, for the intransitive verb *claim*, a book published in 1648. But Bishop Pecock, nearly two hundred years earlier, wrote: "Certis, no man mai *cleyme* . . . that . . . this word . . . schulde needis bitokene a graved ymage," etc. *The Repressor*, vol. i., p. 140.

#### CIVIL-SERVICE REFORM PUBLICATION SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: As a single one of many cheering signs that, notwithstanding the contempt with which both parties in the campaign have treated civil-service reform, the importance of the subject is being more and more recognized by earnest and thoughtful people of all classes, will you allow me to mention the fact that at the Michigan State Conference of Unitarian Churches, held in Detroit last week, a paper on civil-service reform was read by Rev. C. G. Howland, of Kalamazoo—long an earnest advocate of the subject—and in the subsequent discussion of the paper it came to light that every minister of the Conference was an active friend of the reform. Accordingly the Conference took action (1) to open the way for Mr. Howland to give the paper (which was regarded as a very able presentation of the subject) as a lecture in as many towns of the State as possible within the next few weeks, and then (2) to publish the same in large quantities for free general distribution as a "religious tract,"

believing that political corruption is an evil fatal alike to government, society, and religion, and that reform of the civil service is the most important moral as well as political issue now before the country. J. T. S.

ANN ARBOR, MICH., Oct. 27, 1880.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION :

SIR: We have watched with pleasure the agitation of the question of a Civil-Service Reform Publication Society in your columns, and are glad to see your announcement that the subject is taking tangible shape, and that a society will likely be organized soon after the Presidential election. Thus far all the proffers seem to be in cash subscriptions, for the formation of a Publishing Bureau. Believing that the enlistment in the good cause of as many as possible of the already-established newspapers and periodicals will be of advantage in reaching the masses, we modestly volunteer in the new army, and pledge ourselves to do all that a weekly newspaper with sixteen hundred subscribers can. In our own weak way we had already commenced the fight, but we know that under the guidance of a well-managed bureau our battling may be made more effective. We hope to see many other papers speedily fall into line, if such aid is considered acceptable.

Truly yours, W. W. SCOTT.

OFFICE OF THE "IRON VALLEY REPORTER," CANAL DOVER, OHIO, Oct. 23, 1880.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION :

SIR: Some of your correspondents seem to be anxious as to the possible partisan bent of a Civil-Service Reform Publication Society. The anxiety seems to me to be easily removable. Let the Society systematically decline to "endorse" any candidate, of either party; but let it publish the names of candidates for any office—Congressional, Presidential, State, or local—who are personally pledged against appointments or removals for political reasons, and for complete civil-service reform; and let those who join the Society do so under a pledge not to vote for any candidate not so pledged. Nothing will be more apt to make the average politician "pledge" himself to anything than the imminent refusal of any large fraction of voters to "come out."

J.

NORWALK, CONN., Oct. 28, 1880.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION :

SIR: A good cause is sometimes endangered by the excessive zeal of imprudent friends. The cause of civil-service reform, it seems to me, is exposed to peril from this source. Its advocates quite generally appear to demand not merely that members of Congress shall not exercise a controlling influence in the selection of civil officers, appointed by the Executive, but that the President shall carefully abstain from holding any communication with members of Congress respecting the selection of such officers. Thus, the passage in General Garfield's letter accepting the nomination for the Presidency has been sharply criticised, because he says in it, with reference to executive appointments:

"To select wisely from our vast population those who are best fitted for the many offices to be filled requires an acquaintance far beyond the range of one man. The Executive should, therefore, seek and receive the information and assistance of those whose knowledge of the communities in which the duties are to be performed thus qualifies them to aid in making the wisest choice."

A writer in the *Nation* of the 30th of September last declares that this paragraph is equivalent to an assertion that "Congressmen should have a guiding and controlling influence in appointing the civil officers of their respective States and districts." This is not a fair construction of General Garfield's language. There are other persons besides members of Congress who, by their knowledge of the communities in which the duties of officers who may be appointed are to be performed, are qualified to aid the Executive with information and assistance in making a proper choice. General Garfield would have the Executive free to seek counsel of all such persons, whether members of Congress or not. But some of the friends of civil-service reform, irritated by the recollection of past abuses, would have members of Congress utterly excluded from giving information or counsel. In my judgment this is going to an unjustifiable extreme. After all, members of Congress are not so much worse than other men. I have known several who were quite intelligent, reasonably honest, and for whose opinions and judgment I had considerable respect. A discerning and upright President may be trusted to hear the recommendations even of members of Congress, and to give them their due weight. The great abuse in the matter of appointments to the civil service has been the demand, by members of Congress, not to give information and advice merely, but to designate absolutely the persons for appointment in their respective States or districts. There is no reason to believe that General Garfield approves of such dictation, or that, if elected, he would submit to it.

As a friend of civil-service reform I hope that General Garfield, if he is our next President, will treat members of Congress with courtesy; that, in

regard to removals and appointments to office, he will consult with them, but not with them only, nor with the purpose of being controlled by their suggestions; and especially that he will make no removals except for cause. The fact that a man has been chosen to represent his State in the Senate, or his district in the House, should not be held to disqualify him for giving information and advice to the President respecting appointments among his constituents. The public are quick to complain if a President makes many appointments among his personal friends and intimate acquaintances. He cannot confine his selection within such narrow limits, and if he goes outside of it he must rely upon information from others. It will be difficult to persuade the people that in so doing he should wholly ignore the representatives they have chosen. In seeming to demand such a course the civil-service reformers are doing their own cause an injury. The leaders in any reform movement must lead, but they should avoid going so far in advance as to be beyond the reach of the sympathies of the rest of mankind. The voice crying in the wilderness should not begin too far away in the wilderness. Civil-service reform has already made some progress. It will continue to make progress if its advocates are reasonable, temperate, and persistent. But, now and then, they need to recall Talleyrand's maxim, *Pas trop de zèle*. H. R.

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 25, 1880.

## Notes.

A. D. F. RANDOLPH & CO. have in press 'Honolulu, 1828-61,' by the late Laura F. Judd.—Sidney Perley, Boxford, Mass., proposes to publish in January a new monthly, the *Essex County Historical and Genealogical Register*, thus supplementing the Essex Institute's Historical Collections and the less circumscribed *Historical and Genealogical Register* of Boston. It will be illustrated as far as practicable.—The *Platonist*, a monthly magazine of the philosophy implied in its name, is to be issued by Thomas M. Johnson, of Osceola, Mo.—The *American Architect* for October 23 contains a perspective view of the design for the new National Museum at Washington. The presumed necessity of conforming to the architecture of the Smithsonian Institution must be regarded as unfortunate. The building will be ready for occupancy by July next. The number for Oct. 30 is noticeable as being given up to a history and description of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, with heliotype and other excellent illustrations.—A partial bibliography of Parks and Landscape Gardening in the October *Bulletin* of the Boston Public Library should be useful to any one interested in the subject.—No. 11 of the Rhode Island Historical Tracts (Providence: Sidney S. Rider) contains sketches of the lives of two Rhode Island authoresses, Frances H. Whipple (Mrs. McDougall) and Catherine R. Arnold (Mrs. Williams), and of a well-known standard writer on law, Joseph K. Angell. It has some value as a contribution to the history of the Dorr rebellion, but is especially curious as recording Mr. Angell's endeavor to recover an English property without an heir—not the first or the last will-o'-the-wisp chase of the kind, but as well conducted and promising as any.—A revised edition of Prof. B. G. Wilder's pocket 'Health Notes for Students' has been issued by Andrus & Church, Ithaca, N. Y. It is commendable for general observance.—'Mary and I; or, Forty Years with the Sioux,' by Stephen R. Riggs, D.D. (Chicago: W. G. Homes), is a narrative of personal experiences in an arduous and often dangerous missionary field, and will have a certain degree of attraction for the religious world for its display of Christian faith and courage, especially on the part of the deceased Mary, the wife of the author. It does not give, or pretend to give, such a view of the special characteristics of the Indians, and of the considerations bearing on the question of their permanent civilization, as would make the book have any special significance in the discussion of the great Indian question.—'The Englishman and the Scandinavian,' by Frederick Metcalfe, M.A. (London: Trübner & Co.), is an attempt to give a lively and popular account of the customs, notions, language, and literature of the Anglo-Saxons and Scandinavians by picking out all the good things from the original books in both languages and weaving them together. If it were intended for scholars, fault might be found with it as not using the latest authorities on various matters; but it is sufficiently accurate and learned for its purpose, and may very well be a success. It is disfigured, however, by an unreasonable insistence on the superiority of the Scandinavians, and also by the use of polite slang by way of garnish, as we find it in the mouths of characters in English novels, not heretofore in the historical works of the fellows of Oxford.—Dr. A. Rambeau has printed in a separate pamphlet his paper in the *Englische Studien* on the relation of Chaucer's 'House of Fame' to Dante's 'Divina Commedia.' He has gathered all the parallel passages and expressions with true German thoroughness; but they do not amount to much, after all. However, Dr. Rambeau brings in much general exposition and criticism, and has made an interesting paper of it.—Dr. John Koch, in his 'Ausgewählte kleinere Dichtungen Chaucer's' (Leipzig: W. Friedrich, 1880), has selected for translation into German in the original metres ten of



Chaucer's minor poems, which he thinks are most interesting and suggestive in connection with the poet's character and life. The longest and liveliest is the "Parlament of Foules," of which Professor Lounsbury lately gave us an excellent edition. The translations are good. The notes are brief and few. The Introduction, however, contains some interesting attempts to fix the dates and other circumstances of the poems.—J. W. Bouton is agent for the new *Revue des Arts Décoratifs*, of which Quantin is the Paris publisher, in relations with the *Union Centrale des Beaux-Arts*. The opening numbers criticise and illustrate the recent exhibition of the works of the late Viollet-le-Duc, among other matters of much interest. The photogravures are admirably executed.—Musicians will be delighted to hear that Breitkopf & Härtel, of Leipzig, are preparing a complete edition of Franz Liszt's articles and letters on musical topics, hitherto scattered through various French and German periodicals. The first volume, comprising the monograph on Chopin, translated by "La Mara," has just appeared, and four others are to follow.—Parts 21 and 22 of Oncken's 'Allgemeine Geschichte' (New York: Westermann) conclude the history of the Crusades, by Professor Kugler, and begin the history of the Roman Empire, by Professor Hertzberg. The illustrations relating to the siege of Rhodes by the Turks are quaint reproductions; those concerning the Roman Empire are fine wood-engravings of well-known scenes and masterpieces of art, introduced by two fragments from the sculptured gigantomachy of the Pergamus altar, showing Athena and Hecate respectively in combat with the giants.

—Long before the *Nation* reached its thirtieth volume, readers who had preserved the files of the paper urged us to make a comprehensive index to them. Editorial convenience powerfully seconded this appeal, but the task grew more and more formidable while we hesitated, and meantime the associated libraries which have undertaken the continuation of 'Poole's Index' had included the *Nation* up to the present year, giving subject-references to select editorial articles and book reviews, and occasionally to the other departments of the paper, and affixing, where known, the names of the writers. The probable date of completion of this international enterprise we cannot indicate, and we should further state that the *Nation* index will not stand by itself, but will be confounded topically with that of the several periodicals embraced in the scheme. We have been lately surprised and gratified by receiving advance-sheets of 'A General Index to the *Nation*—Vols. i.—xxx., July, 1865–Sept., 1880,' compiled entirely without our knowledge by one of our contributors, who we can only hope will find his account in it beyond the satisfaction which he takes in making our files accessible for those who value them as he does.

—This Index will fill about 40 pp. 8vo, in three columns, containing references not only to articles, but parts of articles, and having this general plan: "(1) To place under the name of each author the volume and page on which each of his books has been reviewed; (2) to place under each subject and sub-subject the volume and page of articles, notes, or reviews relating to it." We cannot speak of the execution as a whole, having only seen a portion of the press-proofs, but there is clearly no attempt to reach the standard of the advanced index-making of the present day, and cross-references will often have to be imagined by the searcher. For example, under *Credit-Mobilier*, the references are to the original scandal, and not to the revival of it during the past few months, for which *Garfield* will probably have to be consulted. Inconsistencies like *Aiskulos* and *Alexander*, *Athens* and *Crète* and *Cyprus*, occur in the treatment of Greek names. *Biograpy*, *Elefants*, and *Filosofy* show the compiler's predilection for the new orthography, and *Chymistry* for the old. But these caprices are the "personal equation" which the user of the Index will soon get accustomed to and make allowance for, while divisions like *America*—*U. S.*, *Art*, *Bible*, *Boston*, *Catholic Church*, *China*, *Copyright*, *Dante*, *Education*, *Household*, *International Law*, *Politics*, *Political Economy*, *Social Subjects*, *Trade*, etc., reveal the real utility of the work. Without endorsing it, therefore, as the best that could have been done, we can heartily recommend it as worth far more than it costs, to say nothing of its being the only actual Index, with no great probability of ever having a rival. Our next issue will probably contain the compiler's advertisement.

—The 'Bibliography of the State of Ohio,' prepared and issued by Mr. Peter G. Thomson, of Cincinnati, is welcome not only in and for itself but as adding another American publisher to the list of American authors. Eastern examples of such a conjunction are, if not so numerous as might be desired, still not rare; and in Cincinnati Mr. Robert Clarke had already shown that scholarship and research and literary aptitude are compatible with success in the manufacture and sale of books. The Ohio Valley Historical Series, which he inspired and supported as long as he was able, is fitly supplemented by Mr. Thomson's Bibliography, an elegant royal octavo volume of 436 pp., printed on heavy paper, with broad margins and rubrics, in unexceptionable taste. It contains some 1,400 titles, from which the ordinary public documents have been excluded, but among which are recorded all the publications of the State geological surveys and the laws of the Northwestern Territories. It ranks ninth in the order of State bibliographies, for only Maine, New

Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maryland, Minnesota, and Wisconsin can point to similar undertakings; in all other respects it is perhaps second to none. Mr. Thomson has personally examined nearly every work on his list, and in the case of the rarer ones he indicates the libraries in which they may be found. He appends, wherever advisable, notes, both explanatory and critical, and not seldom gossip, ending with an exhibit of the prices which the work in hand has brought at various sales. The Brad-dock literature, with Washington's Journal; Harrisoniana, which embraces no less than thirteen campaign lives (with Caleb Cushing and Richard Hildreth among the writers of them) and nine campaign song-books, besides endless sermons, eulogies, etc.; American, German, and French editions of Heckerwelder's 'History, etc., of the Indian Nations'; the literature of "Symmes's theory" of the inner constitution of the globe, which enables Mr. Thomson in a note to describe the theory and sketch the life of its eccentric inventor; and the 'Book of Mormon,' of which the second edition was published in Cincinnati, are perhaps the salient features of the Bibliography. Classics like Burnett's and Doddridge's 'Notes,' Finley's 'Life among the Indians,' Christian Frederick Post's 'Second Journal,' and even Ashe's bogus 'Travels in America' and Josiah Priest's 'American Antiquities,' of course, are here, and among the eminent names not already cited we meet with J. Q. Adams, Lyman Beecher, T. Corwin, Michaux and Rafinesque, Paine and Volney; and, of an earlier generation, Governor Thomas Pownall. An appendix of omitted titles, a subject-index, and a list of sales conclude and complete this praiseworthy performance.

—We find in the London *Athenaeum* of Oct. 16 a fuller statement than we were able to make a fortnight ago, from the Messrs. Harper's prospectus, concerning the English edition of their *Monthly*. It will be apparent from this how significant a step towards international copyright, without the intervention of any treaty, has been undertaken by this house:

"A European edition of *Harper's Magazine* is to be begun in December by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. It has been through this well-known magazine, in the course of its sixty volumes, that many of the leading novels of Bulwer, Dickens, Thackeray, George Eliot, and other English writers have been introduced to American readers, and the use of such copyright material has hitherto prevented its sale here. This difficulty it is proposed to obviate by securing the right of serial publication both for Europe and America, and Mr. Thomas Hardy is now engaged upon a novel which, with illustrations by Mr. Du Maurier, will appear exclusively in *Harper's*. It is noteworthy that while English newspapers greatly surpass American in average circulation, the American illustrated magazines have, on the contrary, larger sales, *Harper's* reaching about 140,000, and its younger rival, *Scribner's*, which has already gained a footing here, about 100,000 monthly. The great outlay on illustrations, reaching sometimes a hundred in a number, that these magazines incur, would evidently be impossible did they not attain a very large circulation. The European edition will be partly printed here, the American editorial departments being partially replaced by English."

—We have received a circular from the "Rochester Astronomical Society," with permission "to use in any way most desirable." Upon second thoughts, and upon seeing it appear expanded and with a cut in the reading columns of such papers as the *New England Journal of Education* and the *Illustrated Christian Weekly*, it has seemed that some brief notice would be such a use. It chronicles the facts, among others, that "the new Warner Observatory which is being erected at Rochester, N. Y., is attracting much attention in social and literary as well as scientific circles," and that it "has been heavily endowed by Mr. H. H. Warner, proprietor of the Safe Kidney and Liver Cure and other remedies." It is also to be "the finest private observatory in the world," and as it is to be "specially devoted to discoveries there are good reasons to expect very many scientific revelations in the near future." Professors Watson and Swift, the latter of whom is to have charge of it, have already "discovered three intra-mercurial planets," which, considering the endower's ownership of remedies that are safe, suggests a paronomasia that is execrable, to be sure, but how otherwise to account for the connection between astronomy and patent medicines it is difficult to see. Does the science of concocting kidney and liver cures depend in some occult way upon astrology, and is it possible that astrology can have been developed anew by the "discoveries" of Professor Swift? In any event, it is easy to perceive that Mr. Warner has hit upon an ingenious device in advertising his astronomical appliances instead of his chemical compounds. Notoriously the ordinary means of familiarizing the public with the virtues of safe kidney cures have grown stale and monotonous, and such a novelty as this cannot fail to be admired. Whether scientific societies and individuals who desire to make use of the discoveries about to occur will be obliged to reciprocate by taking packages of the patron's remedies for general distribution and personal consumption, does not appear. Possibly the general impression that a man who is unselfish enough to build the finest private observatory in the world in the interests of science cannot manufacture deleterious nostrums, is all that is sought. At any rate, the conjunction aforesaid is odd enough to make us think that educational and religious journals which parade it should either do so in their advertising columns or make more fuss about it in the interests of novelty.

—The recent meeting of the American Oriental Society in this city (Oct. 28) was made especially interesting by the presence of Dr. Martin, president of the college for instruction of Chinese young men in European languages and knowledge at Peking. Dr. Martin made two communications: one on the Chinese worship of ancestors, of which he took a much more favorable view than that of most missionaries, asserting that it had done much to save China from idolatry and hierarchical despotism, and that any objectionable element in it might be left to melt out under the influence of an accepted Christianity instead of being made by positive attack the strongest obstacle in the way of Christianity; and another on new forms of Buddhism in Japan and China, in which, especially in the former country, is seen a notable assimilation to Christian doctrine. Prof. S. Wells Williams, of Yale College, read an article on *Fu-sang*, held by many to be a western America known to the Chinese; he showed by the circumstances of the origin of its description, and by the surroundings of the latter, that the notion was destitute of any shade of plausibility. The veteran Egyptologist, Professor Seyffarth, discussed the origin and date of the obelisk now in process of erection on Central Park. He pointed out that its current connection with Cleopatra is purely fanciful, and regarded it as first set up by Thothmes III., nearly 1,900 years before Christ, and further inscribed by Rameses II., 200 years later. Interesting contributions to Biblical exegesis and Eastern ceremonial were made from the Syriac by Prof. Isaac H. Hall, of Philadelphia. Prof. Whitney, of New Haven, discussed the methods of transliteration of Sanskrit in use among scholars, with the design of contributing toward the unification of their present variety. Mr. Perry, of Columbia College, read extracts from an exhaustive discussion of the god Indra as he appears in the Rig-Veda. Further papers were offered by Drs. Ward and Hübsch, Professors Short and Whitney, Mr. Rockhill, and others.

—The institution over which Dr. Martin presides is called the Tungwen College. It issued last year its first printed calendar in Chinese and English. From this we learn that, founded in 1861, it now numbers over a hundred students, with eight European professors, of various nationalities, and one Chinese, besides an auxiliary corps of native instructors. The full course of instruction is eight years; three are devoted wholly to the acquisition of European languages, the remainder to scientific and general studies, followed through the medium of those languages, but chiefly of English, for which alone at present the course is completely organized. The successful students are placed in the line of official promotion and put to use as interpreters, translators, attachés to legations, and the like. They are supported by Government from the start, and begin soon to receive a monthly stipend, which is gradually increased according to progress made. There is a foreign library of 1,350 volumes, besides text-books and Chinese books, and a printing-office forms part of the establishment. A list is given of works turned into Chinese from western tongues for the use of the college, mostly by its instructors. The institution was founded and is maintained under the enlightened patronage of Prince Kung, uncle of the boy-emperor. It is, of course, impossible to tell to what it will lead; but it is likely to prove an important agency in helping to break down the thick wall of Chinese exclusiveness.

—Miss Clara Morris is, we believe, the only American actress who has ever attempted with any success the modern French emotional drama. After an interval of some years, she is now playing at the Park Theatre several of her best-known parts, including that of *Alixé*, a rôle in which she made some of her earliest successes. The play is one which presents opportunities for extraordinarily fine and also extraordinarily bad acting. *Alixé*, brought up in the household of the *Marquis de Césaranne*, a happy and amiable girl, knowing nothing about her origin except that she is the daughter of *Madame Valory*, is in reality the illegitimate child of that lady, who is really the wife of the *Count de Somerville*. The countess had deserted her husband for the father of *Alixé* years before, and the husband and wife have never met since. The daughter sees and loves *Henri de Kerdran*, who is unfortunately betrothed to *Lucienne*, the legitimate child of the count and countess. *Lucienne*, however, knows no more of the previous history of *Madame Valory* than does *Alixé*, and imagines her mother dead. The *Duc de Mirandol*, a rich man, gifted with a great deal of good feeling, but also afflicted with a considerable share of folly, is in love with *Alixé*. The *Marquis de Césaranne* and wife, married and happy, are figures in the background of the play, serving to lighten its general gloom and tragedy. In fact, and it is a curious fact, if these characters and the duke were omitted, as they easily might be, the play, thoroughly modern as it is in feeling, would be almost classical in form: the unities of time, place, and action are preserved throughout to an extent very rare in modern tragedy. It is obvious that with such materials as the characters and situation present, abundant opportunity for tragedy exists. First, we have the revelation of the mutual love of *Henri de Kerdran* and *Alixé*, followed closely by the discovery that he is engaged to be married to *Lucienne*. Upon the heels of this comes the unexpected appearance of the *Count de Somerville* and the discovery, gradual but certain, by *Alixé* of her real history. Meanwhile, to deepen the

tragedy, *Kerdran* has finally determined to break off his engagement with *Lucienne* and marry *Alixé*, so that the discovery of her wretched position comes at what was apparently going to be a happy turn in the tide for her. At one stroke her whole life is ruined. She discovers that she is illegitimate, that her mother is a faithless wife, and that she is the sister of the woman whose lover she is taking from her. Such a play could have only one climax—the death of the victim; and as emotional drama is nothing if not heartrending, we are feasted in the fourth act with a sight of the corpse itself. She has drowned herself, and the play fittingly ends with the scene in which her body is brought into the house of the marquis. The range of emotion in the part of *Alixé* is, of course, very great, and Miss Morris is an actress of such marked natural powers that she brings out many of the strongest points in the play with striking effect. She is, however, to our mind, much better fitted for parts requiring stormy and passionate acting than for pathetic scenes. It is difficult to imagine anybody acting *Alixé* perfectly. Certainly no English or American actress could do so, for the whole conception of the character, and one at least of the situations, is pre-eminently Gallic. Miss Morris is at her best in the scene in which she discovers her mother's guilt. Her bewilderment and horror over this are a good example of her acting at its best. The acting of Mrs. J. J. Prior, who takes the part of *Madame Valory*, also deserves notice. The part is one full of difficulties, which Mrs. Prior overcomes with marked ability. Indeed, she makes it almost the principal part of the play.

—The most interesting event of last week's Italian opera was the reproduction of "Rigoletto," with Madame Gerster in the cast, who, for the first time in this country, assumed the part of *Gilda*, one of the most interesting and effective characters on the Italian operatic stage. Never before has Madame Gerster so fully displayed her splendid dramatic qualities as she did on this occasion. Her girlish simplicity in the first act was charming, and the awaking of her love was beautifully rendered in the famous aria, "Caro nome," which she decorated with a wealth of florid ornamentation that was at times bewildering, while the broader passages were rendered with intense fervor and dramatic force. A delightful effect was produced by the artist as she slowly ascended the staircase to her bedroom; she ended her long scene with a high, sustained note of remarkable clearness and power, which faintly died away long after she was out of sight of the audience. In the great duo with the baritone in the second act she was equally effective; but she had reserved the full strength of her dramatic and vocal powers for the famous quartet in the third act, perhaps Verdi's best piece of work, which was the crowning point of the evening's performance. It is needless to speak of *Galassi*. *Rigoletto* is one of the most powerful parts of this admirable artist, and he infused it with all his habitual grace and skill. The new tenor, Ravelli, sang the part of the *Duke* with great brilliancy and animation, and Mlle. Belocca looked exceedingly pretty in her gipsy costume. "Favorita," with the same cast as last year, with Campanini and Miss Cary in the leading rôles, was given at the Saturday matinée.

—The 'Proceedings and Transactions of the Manchester Conference of the Library Association of the United Kingdom' has at last appeared, nearly a year after the meeting and just in time for the Edinburgh meeting. American librarians had received a foretaste of the contents through an abstract in the fourth volume of the *Library Journal*, prepared by Mr. Tedder, who seems to have a special gift in the art of  *précis*  writing. The volume is sumptuously printed, like its predecessors; but seems to us to be of less practical interest, a large part of the space being devoted to historical and descriptive sketches of the libraries of Lancashire, Cheshire, and Yorkshire. Mr. Parr's paper on the card-ledger, in which he has re-invented an American device, Mr. Cotgreave's on his indicator, and Mr. Walford's on library-fires are worthy of attention. The paper on the employment of young women shows some advance in English opinion on this subject since the London conference. Mr. Wilson's "Classification (meaning classed catalogues) in Libraries" contains many just remarks. The gist of it is that a system of classification should be made to fit the books, and not the books crowded into a preconceived artificial classification. But the author does not notice that a scheme can be made out beforehand from the books now in the world, as ascertained by a careful study of the innumerable catalogues published, and then applied to any library. Such a scheme, if it contains within itself provision for modification as science progresses, will probably be not only more logical, but more consistent, and therefore more convenient, than one built up day by day, as the author recommends, by the addition of new subjects as new books come into the library.

—Additional announcements of forthcoming English works include the following books of travel: 'The Expiring Continent: a Narrative of Travel in Senegambia,' by A. W. Mitchinson; 'Seven Years in South Africa,' by Dr. Emil Holub; 'A Trip up the Niger and Benueh,' by A. Burdo; 'Incidents of a Journey Through Nubia to Darfur,' by Sidney Ensor, C.E.; 'Tent Work in Palestine,' by Lieut. C. R. Conder; 'Pathways of Palestine,' by the Rev. H. B. Tristram; 'A Pilgrimage to Nejd,' by Lady Anne Blunt;



'India in 1880,' by Sir R. Temple; 'The Irrigation Works of India and their Financial Results,' by R. B. Buckley; 'Sketches from Nipal, Historical and Descriptive,' by A. E. Nordenskiöld; 'Siberia in Europe,' a naturalist's visit to the valley of the Petchora, by H. Seebohm; 'Ilios,' by Dr. H. Schliemann; 'The Gardens of the Sun'—the mountains, swamps, and forests of Borneo and the Sulu Archipelago, by F. W. Burbidge; 'New Guinea,' by L. M. d'Albertis; 'Across Patagonia,' by Lady Florence Dixie; 'A Lady's Tour in Corsica,' by Gertrude Forde; 'Unknown Hungary,' by Victor Tissot; 'Holland,' by Edmondo de Amicis; 'Round about Norway,' by C. W. Wood; and 'Rambles among the Hills in the Peak of Derbyshire,' by L. J. Jennings. Kindred works to the foregoing are 'Coral Lands of the Pacific,' by H. Stonehewer Cooper; 'In Zululand with the British, throughout the War of 1879,' by C. L. Norris-Newman; 'With the Kurrum Valley Force in the Cabul Campaign of 1878-79,' by Maj. J. A. S. Colquhoun; 'Colonel Gordon in Central Africa, 1874-79,' with a portrait and maps, edited by G. B. Hill; and 'Voyages of the Elizabethan Seamen'—selections from Hakluyt by E. J. Payne.

—In biography we observe 'A Diary Kept while in Office, 1828-30,' by Edward Law, Earl of Ellenborough; 'Life and Letters of Lord Chancellor Campbell,' edited by his daughter, Mrs. Hardcastle; 'The Personal Life of David Livingstone, from his Unpublished Journals and Correspondence,' by W. G. Blaikie; 'Letters of the late Dr. Thirlwall,' edited by Deans Stanley and Perowne; 'Memoirs of the Duke of Saldanha'; 'Mme. de Staël,' by A. Stevens; 'Jane Austen and her Works,' by Sarah Tytler; 'Samuel Pepys and the World he Lived in,' by Henry B. Wheatley; 'Life of Sir Rowland Hill,' with a portrait by Paul Rajon; 'Life and Letters of John T. Delane, late editor of the *Times*,' by Sir G. W. Dasent; and 'Life of Sir Anthony Panizzi,' by Louis Fagan. Histories are not numerous: the third and last volume of Col. G. B. Malleon's admirable 'History of the Indian Mutiny of 1857-59,' for which, by the way, an analytical index, embracing also Sir J. Kaye's 'History of the Sepoy War,' has been prepared by F. Pincott; a 'History of Penny Postage,' by the late Sir R. Hill and his nephew, G. B. Hill; and an 'Enquiry into the Origin, Character, and Reform of the English Land System,' by Sir George C. Brodrick. In connection with this last should be mentioned a treatise, by Prof. Richey of the University of Dublin, on the existing legal relations of landlord and tenant in Ireland and the peculiar Irish legislation concerning them; and the concluding volumes of the 'Contemporary History of Affairs in Ireland from 1641 to 1652,' which include hitherto unpublished letters of Oliver Cromwell.

—We conclude with some miscellaneous titles: 'Studies in English Art,' a second series, by F. Wedmore; the third edition of Chatto & Jackson's 'Treatise on Wood Engraving, Historical and Practical'; 'Japanese Arts,' by C. Dresser.—'Horace's Odes,' select English translations, edited by W. F. Cooper; 'Studies in Song,' by A. C. Swinburne; 'Songs and Poems from 1819 to 1879,' by J. R. Planché, edited by his daughter, Mrs. Mackarness; a 'Selection of English Sonnets by Living Writers,' edited by W. Waddington; a translation of the 'Lusiads' of Camoëns, by Capt. Richard Burton; 'The Lyrical Drama,' by H. S. Edwards.—'The Power of Movement in Plants,' by Charles Darwin, assisted by Francis Darwin; 'Prehistoric Europe,' by James Geikie; a 'Dictionary of Ethnological and Philological Geography,' by R. G. Latham; 'Factors of the Unsound Mind, with special reference to the Plea of Insanity in Criminal Cases and the Amendment of the Law,' by W. A. Guy.—'Our Old Country Towns,' by A. Rimmer, illustrated; 'Edinburgh in the Olden Time,' 63 original drawings, 1796-1828, collected by the Rev. John Sime.—'The Letter H, Past, Present, and Future,' by Alfred Leach.

—Curious as the estimate of American literary work by English writers often is, it must yet be admitted that in this respect the palm is rather due the Germans, with whom it is a common notion that the only living American author of note and originality is Bret Harte. His works are in all libraries, more than fifteen volumes of Reclam's cheap edition of German and foreign books being devoted to translations of his sketches and novels, while enterprising newspapers, such as the Berlin *Tageblatt*, make great efforts to secure a new sketch from his pen, which is then announced weeks ahead in large type. Even the great Johannes Scherr, in the brief chapter on American writers appended to his admirable 'Geschichte der Englischen Literatur,' follows the taste of the crowd in so far as to devote almost a page of praise to Cooper, while Hawthorne is no more than mentioned by name, in connection with Neal, Kennedy, Willis, and Bird. As Germany has never produced any novelists that compare with the greatest French and English, it can hardly be expected that the average German should show better taste in matters of fiction than the average Englishman does, say, in musical matters. But it is somewhat surprising to see the attitude assumed by Spielhagen, who is by many regarded as the leading German novelist, in the October number of *Westermann's Monatshefte*, of which he is an editor, or at least a regular contributor. Under the heading "Ein lustiges Buch" he gives a very favorable review of Mark Twain's 'Tramp Abroad,' with a trans-

lation of the episode of the bluejay. It characterizes Spielhagen's sense of humor that he should give the first place among Mark Twain's works to this, his latest, production, which has certainly contributed little to his fame in this country, and of which the second volume is simply wretched, or at least silly. Spielhagen says that, with the best intentions, he cannot modify his views of American literature as expressed ten years ago in the preface to one of his works. An American drama is still a thing of the future; the lyric poets, Longfellow, Bryant, Stoddard, Taylor, etc., paint after European models, and the specific American elements—a tendency to moralize and indulge in descriptions—are, according to German aesthetic notions, a defect rather than a poetic merit. In our novels all is imitation excepting a few touches of local color. Of first-rate authors in this line, who might be placed by the side of the first German, English, and French, there is not one. Hawthorne is very much overestimated. He is all imitation and mannerism, and style is altogether out of the question in his case. Poe, as a writer of fiction, of course fares no better. The only green branch on the tree of American fiction—and that only of the short, sketchy sort—bears the names of Mark Twain and Bret Harte. Of Howells, Aldrich, and Warner Spielhagen appears never to have heard, and Henry James, jr., he probably takes for an Englishman. All this is certainly very discouraging to hopeful Americans. Apropos of Spielhagen, we may add that his admirers will find a portrait and sketch of him in *Nord und Süd* for October. The manuscript of the sketch got lost on the way and had to be replaced by another, which shows that even the well-organized German postal system has its shortcomings.

#### FURNESS'S 'KING LEAR.'\*

WE have now an admirable hand-book for the thorough study of "King Lear." Mr. Furness gives us the substance of a hundred volumes in one. It contains a critical text, with all the various readings and interpretations and explanatory notes from the beginning to the present time, with the criticisms and comments of all kinds, lexical, grammatical, aesthetical, and the rest. Mr. Furness works with more ease and expresses his own opinions more freely than in his former volumes, and this is a gain. In an appendix there are discussions of the date of composition, the sources of the plot, the actors, the costume; extended passages of English, German, and French criticism; a good bibliography, and an index. In all there are 503 close-packed pages, and it is a piece of work which Mr. Furness and his collaborators may well be glad to have done. There is no book to be compared with it; it is indispensable to every student of Shakspeare.

An examination of it shows that this, sometimes reckoned the greatest of Shakspeare's works, is still imperfectly comprehended. After all the study of it a great many difficulties remain unsolved both in the text and the interpretation. In "Hamlet" the verbal difficulties seldom or never extend to the throwing of doubt on the meaning of a sentence; the coherence and familiarity of the matter enable us to follow the sense with confidence. But in the broken and exalted utterances of this play the sense of whole clauses is often doubtful. Mr. Furness's greatest labor must have been with his text. The printed originals are abridgments, and they are so different as to suggest that the copy from which the folio was abridged had been rewritten after the quarto was abridged. Mr. Furness follows the folio, but with many corrections; perhaps too many. It would be simpler and more satisfactory to most students to have the folio always, if it makes sense and metre, even though some other reading seems to be more perspicuous, or poetical, or Shaksperian. Shakspeare is not always at his best, nor are we; we may see the dark passage in a new light to-morrow. Thus in I. i. 226, when *France* suggests that *Cordelia* must have done something monstrous and unnatural to make her father so curse her, she beseeches him to make known that

"It is no vicious blot, murder, or foulness,"

For this Mr. Furness reads:

"It is no vicious blot or other foulness."

It must be admitted that the new reading is at best rather an improvement than a necessity. Indeed, if "murder" is something too monstrous for *Cordelia*, the other is too tame for *Lear's* curses and charges. Mr. Furness might have taken warning from Mr. Richard Grant White, who at first accepted the new reading, but at last rejects it. The example may stand for one class of objectionable corrections; reading *burdocks* for *hardokes* (IV. iv. 4), because the botanists cannot identify *hardokes*, is an example of another class.

Mr. Furness is more and more disposed to adhere to the exact forms of words used by Shakspeare. "Why should Shakspeare's text be modernized?" he says; "we do not so treat Spenser. Is Shakspeare's text less sacred?" So he has retained *it* for *its*, *mo* for *more*, *wilde* for *vile*, and the like; and he regrets that he has not printed the "then" of the folio for

\* A New Variorum Edition of Shakspeare. Edited by Horace Howard Furness, Ph.D., LL.D., Honorary Member of the "Deutsche Shakspeare-Gesellschaft" of Weimar. Vol. V., King Lear. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. 1880.

"than." On this hint Mr. Furnivall is about to publish a cheap reprint in the old spelling throughout, and it will be a useful book. It is perhaps better in an edition like this to take the mean between a literal reprint and the usual modernized page. Mr. Furness might, however, carry his adhesion to the folio much farther than he does in the direction of significant and reasonable spelling. In the first scene we find that he has changed *weigh'd, craz'd, lov'd*, and the like to *weighed, crazed, loved*; *banisht, voucht*, and the like to *banished, vouched*; *interest to interest'd*; *honor, honor'd* to *honour, honour'd*. It would be a little quaint but not offensive to have retained *bountie, libertie, shadowie, dutie*; the good old ending *-ie* should not have yielded to the penman's fondness for final *y*. So *bin* for *been* might well stand to testify for our American pronunciation. And why should such a truthful word as *horson* have its etymology and pronunciation disguised by heading and padding it with *so* and *e*?

Mr. Furness has noticed that particles sometimes wholly disappear through absorption into adjacent words, and he keeps a sharp lookout for them, and indicates them by an apostrophe. Thus, in I. i. 275 he reads

"Prescribe not' us our duty,"

because he thinks a *to* has been absorbed by the *t* of *not*; and in II. ii. 116 he reads

"Such a deal of man  
That' worthied him,"

because an *it* is absorbed in *That*. But in neither passage is there any such absorption as he supposes.

In the critical study of "Lear" a great difficulty arises from the point of view. We easily accept the view in "Romeo and Juliet," where everything appears as it does to the eye of youth; *Juliet*, thirteen years old, is old enough. In "Hamlet," too, we see the world as it appears to one just entering the battle of life. The father of our *Ophelia* is still a superfluous old *Polonius*. But, as Shakspeare grows older, he passes beyond the experience of great numbers of his readers. In "Macbeth" and "Othello" the point of view is that of middle age, and in "King Lear" the world is seen as it appears to an infirm old man. We must take the truthfulness of the presentment with a large measure of faith. We never have been old men; we do not know how they feel; we never have had thankless daughters; we never have been insane; we do not even know by observation how the insane act and talk. The difficulty of bringing us to this point of view is increased by the story, which turns upon the doings of the young married couples who have to entertain in their families the old king and his hundred knights. It is very easy to take the point of view of the young folks when they say:

"—your all-licensed fool,  
And other of your insolent retinue,  
Do hourly carp and quarrel;  
Our court grows like a riotous inn.  
Fifty of these followers are surely enough."

Change the sex of *Lear*. Literature has hardly a point of view more familiar or more easily taken than the married man's view of the worrying mother-in-law. Shakspeare does not disguise the facts. He shows us the king in his unreason, his passion, his worrying, his domineering. How, then, does he bring us to accept his point of view?

The most obvious source of this power is the perfect utterance of the king, the ease and copiousness with which he gives intense expression to his feelings. He is regal withal, every inch a king; and in the first scene, as we hear him dispensing kingdoms and curses so grandly and so strangely, we give the reins to imagination and bid farewell to the regions of common sense, as though we were listening to the heroes or gods of Æschylus. The difficulty of keeping us in sympathy with the old king afterwards is partly met by showing the young folk committing crimes against each other abhorrent to human nature, so that no one thinks of questioning the justice of their father's reproaches and curses. At the crisis of the play, at the tempest, the whirlwind of his passion, when conversation with other men must needs be pitiful or laughable, the powers of nature—night, and storm, and darkness—fill the stage; rain, wind, thunder become the old king's interlocutors in place of thankless daughters. We see the heavens taking part against us, and the gods killing men for sport as wanton boys kill flies. It is a matter of course that he who could carry us with the king to such heights of frantic passion at the wounds offered to his imagination and kingly pride, should be able to keep us with him in his truly human woe at the death of the daughter he loves. The tears shed over *Cordelia* need no explanation. But *Lear's* perfect utterance in gentleness is as noticeable as that in passion.

Perhaps no other character in fiction or history has been set forth with such minuteness and eloquent elaboration, on the hint of so few recorded traits, as *Cordelia*. But the commentators treat her mainly as she appears in the final scenes. With her tears and smiles for her poor father, and her immortal voice—ever soft, gentle, and low—she seems the incarnation of filial piety. When her father appeals to her in the first scene, to say how much she loves him, she might be expected, if she could not speak, at least to look her love, and tenderly deplore her want of utterance. But she defends herself sharply in her silence, and commends her want as a virtue. She also

roundly declares that she expects to love her husband, if she shall have one, and that she will not pretend to be wholly devoted to her father. Some of the critics expound these passages as showing that *Cordelia* had a spice of her father's temper. It does not seem to have occurred to any that she has already looked with love on one of her suitors; but that would explain much on better grounds than temper.

#### LUCA SIGNORELLI AND THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE.\*

HERR VISCHER seems to foresee in his preface that few readers who are not unusually gifted with patience and perseverance will follow him through the maze of his historical, topographical, and biographical rambles. He does not, however, warn us that he means to dissect and discuss all themes, including such as the nature of the Deity, the Antichrist, and the Evil One; that he will touch on different philosophical systems of thought, including those of Hegel, Schopenhauer, and many others; nor that he means to quote largely from the book on æsthetics of Herr Fr. Vischer, whose flights of fancy are truly bewildering. He promises to spare us details on Rome, Florence, Lorenzo the Magnificent, and the popes, making sure that we are well informed on these subjects, and this generous consideration on his part gives rise to speculation as to how much more tedious the book might have been had he not given us credit for some previous knowledge and dwelt at length on these themes also. We have under our author's guidance the opportunity of considering Luca Signorelli, his work, and his relation to the Italian Renaissance from every point of view. To use his own words: "We will open the secret door into his studio, we will understand him at his work, we will listen to his monologue, we will look into his very heart; we will not spare ourselves any form of psychological or philosophical research"; and though the data of Signorelli's life are too slight and leave too many gaps for any very detailed biography, Herr Vischer has, by a close study of the work of this great master, done all that patient investigation and a warm sympathy for the personality of Luca Signorelli can do towards giving us the story of his life and work. Our author has spared himself no trouble in this labor of love. He made three journeys to Italy in order to see and study afresh Signorelli's frescoes; other journeys he made to the art galleries of Altenburg, Dresden, and Berlin. One cannot but be impressed by the earnestness and conscientiousness of the biographer, though one may deplore his not having given his work a more readable form.

The first part of the book is taken up with local history—i. e., detailed accounts of the history and government of Cortona, Signorelli's birthplace; of Arezzo, Florence, Loreto, Perugia, Rome, Città di Castello, Urbino, Siena, and Orvieto during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the master having executed works in all these towns. Then comes the biography of Signorelli's teachers and predecessors in art; for example, Lazzaro Vasari, who took him as a boy and introduced him to Piero della Francesca of Borgo San Sepolcro, whose assistant and disciple Luca remained for many years. A chapter is devoted to Verrocchio and Pollaiuolo, Herr Vischer having come to the conclusion that Signorelli during his stay at Florence came directly under their influence as a pupil, on account of a certain similarity in the type of some bearded saints to the works of both those masters; he also recognizes Verrocchio's mannered style of bending up the little finger in hands in movement, in Signorelli's drawings after his acquaintance and apprenticeship in the Florentine school, of which Verrocchio and Pollaiuolo are regarded as the Realists. Another chapter is devoted to the Idealists and Romantics. Of these, Fra Filippo Lippi, Sandro Botticelli, Luca della Robbia, Ghirlandaio, and Benedetto da Maiano are most important, not forgetting Benozzo Gozzoli, who, according to Herr Vischer, is the only one of his countrymen gifted with gladness. The great Leonardo is placed midway between the Romantics and the Realists, taking the highest place in either camp. Perugino's "angels of upturned looks and pious glances" seem to have influenced Signorelli, as also Pinturicchio, whose style is similar.

After this long preamble follows the life of Luca Signorelli, taken chiefly from Vasari and Manni. The former is a warm admirer of the master's work and speaks of him in these terms:

"Although there is great blame to those who, through the mere desire and pride of surpassing others rather than from a wish of usefulness or beneficence, do good work, this reproach cannot be given to Luca of Cortona, who always loved his art and was always kindly to whoever desired to learn, and wherever he could be of use to his profession. And the goodness of his nature was such that he never stooped to anything that was not just and holy, for which reason heaven, recognizing him as a truly good man, was very generous in the blessings showered on him. Luca Signorelli was an excellent painter, and his works were in such great esteem that none were more so at any time."

The name of Signorelli appears in the books of communal deliberations

\* Luca Signorelli und die Italienische Renaissance. Eine kunsthistorische Monographie von Robert Vischer. Leipzig. 1879.



at Cortona as "Luca d'Egidio di maestro Ventura de' Signorelli." He is frequently mentioned in the archives of his native town, as his family was one of the most important, and he was elected nine times to the post of supreme magistrate of the "Signori Priori." At the age of ten he went to Arezzo to study with Lazzaro Vasari (1451), who, dying the following year, left him a pupil of Piero della Francesca (degli Franceschi). The usual term of apprenticeship was then thirteen years, according to Cennini (in his 'Libro dell'Arte' of 1437); but this term was in some cases curtailed to seven, and Herr Vischer concludes this must have been the case with Signorelli, though he may afterwards have remained with Piero as an assistant in his work at Borgo San Sepolcro and other places where he painted. What became of Signorelli after his years of apprenticeship remains a question. Herr Vischer is convinced that he then studied in Florence, and sees every evidence of this in his work bearing so much more affinity to that of Verrocchio and the Pollaiuoli than to that of his master Piero della Francesca. This evidence is scarcely convincing, for there are many cases in which the natural bent of the artist carries him quite in a different track from the one followed by his master.

The first work of Signorelli is the chapel of Sta. Barbara in St. Lorenzo at Arezzo. In 1474 we hear of his painting a colossal Madonna with St. Hieronymus and St. Paul in Città di Castello; this work has been destroyed. Then ensues a gap of four years, during which time he is supposed to have been at Florence, where he was recognized as a great master in his knowledge of the human form, for Vasari tells how Lorenzo the Magnificent asked him for a sample of his art, and how "he painted for him some naked gods which brought him much fame." From the year 1479 up to that of his death at the age of eighty-two we have very exact information as to his work and very few details of his family life. There is one episode showing how on his return to Cortona he found a beloved son killed by some sudden death, and how without tears he drew his figure most carefully. Vasari also relates that he lived splendidly, was always attired in silk, and was held in high esteem by all the great personages of his time. We further hear of his being at Rome in 1513 when Giovanni Medici became Pope under the title of Leo X. The most imposing ceremonies took place on this occasion in honor of the Medicean Pope. Signorelli seems to have made a long and unprofitable stay there, for a letter from Michael Angelo to the "Capitano" of Cortona describes how Messer Luca had come to him to borrow money in order to return to his native place and had never thought to repay it. Herr Vischer is much exercised by this letter, and cannot believe it possible that so honorable a man as Signorelli should have behaved so discreditably; he cannot reconcile himself to the thought of this standing against Signorelli's character for ever, and entreats us to believe some mistake must have occurred in returning the money. Greater familiarity with the artistic temperament might go far to persuade Herr Vischer that the occurrence is possible and quite probable.

After the comparatively short sketch of his life comes a chapter on the art and fantasy of Signorelli with relation to the Italian Renaissance. In this Herr Vischer seeks to show us the influences which went so far to form the art of this master—the literature of his time; the circumstance of his being an Umbrian; the wild and continually disturbed state of the country around; the orders he received from religious bodies for church decorations, on which, by the way, he seems to have bestowed less serious work than on the commissions from noble Florentine houses; the study and revival of ancient Greek art, which led to the more frequent use of the human form in pictures, and a thorough knowledge of anatomy, derived from the Florentine school. The tranquil life of Signorelli seems in contradiction to his art, which derived its color from the troublous times in which he lived, and suggested continual struggle and active movement. We have next a description of Signorelli's greatest work, the frescoes in the chapel of the Madonna di San Brizio, at Orvieto, representing the history of the Antichrist, the Resurrection, and the Last Judgment, which is supposed to have impressed Michael Angelo so deeply that it did much to inspire him with his own design of the Last Judgment. The subjects in themselves leave every margin for a vivid imagination to have full play. In the forms of his demons, so varied and full of invention, in the beauty of the figures of the seraphim, Signorelli shows an unrivalled power of expression. There is also a series of subjects from classical history, beneath which are medallion portraits of the great Italian poets, scenes from the 'Divina Commedia,' and mythological subjects. At Monte Oliveto, near Siena, is another series of frescoes, representing episodes from the life of St. Benedict, also very powerful, though less impressive than the great epic at Orvieto. A term of Vasari's, used in different senses, furnishes the text of a very long and needlessly discursive chapter. Vasari speaks often of work as "terrible," meaning sometimes awe-inspiring and sometimes merely lifelike and striking; whereupon Herr Vischer is very eloquent, and takes the *terribilità* as one of the striking qualities of the quattrocentist painters, and especially of Luca Signorelli, and here it is impossible for us not to lose the thread of his argument. He tries to explain what seems very simple and at once understood, therefore not needing much explanation, or else something that is inexplicable.

The second part of the book contains a complete list of Signorelli's paint-

ings, with their dates and histories, explaining through what hands they have passed; also a second description of the work at Orvieto, with diagrams of the chapel. This will make the book a valuable work of reference. Subjoined is a list of painters who have all been directly or indirectly influenced by Signorelli's work: Michael Angelo, Raphael, and even Albert Dürer are among these, and Herr Vischer explains his reasons for each name on his list, though his grounds for extending it to such a length seem to us frequently insufficient. The portrait of Signorelli is a fac-simile reproduction of a drawing by Charles Fairfax Murray from Luca's portrait of himself in one of the frescoes at Orvieto.

*Fourth Report of the Record Commissioners.* (Boston, 1880.)—This volume embraces "all the records contained in the first volume of the Records of the Town of Dorchester," now incorporated with Boston. The earliest entry is in 1632, the last if not the latest in the book (which follows the jumble of the original) is in 1691. In 1636, "It is ordered that Mr. Duncan shall have 10s paid him by the Towne for to transcribe all these orders into a new booke in a fayre legible hand." For the present and probably final transcript the Boston authorities appropriated \$1,000.

The stern physiognomy of this Puritan community relaxes, under the genial influence of Time, almost into a broad grin. The "Tenn men" appointed in 1634 "to order all the affayres of the Plantation, to continue for one yeere, & to meete monethly," and who afterwards gave way to "the 7 men," were bound by the agreement that "whosoever is chosen in to any office for the good of the Plantation, he shall abide by it, or submit to a fine as the company shall thinke meete to impose." Moreover, "If any of these shall be absent without good cause, allowed by the rest, [he] shall pay for his so fayleing 5 shillings, any that shall come after the hour of 8 of the clock to pay 12 pence, and after 9 to pay 2 shillings," etc. By 1642 "our general towne meetinge" had become very disorderly, "by reason that men haue used their libertye to p'pound there matters to the Plantation without any fore knowledge of the seauen men, and there matters haue been so followed that diuerse things haue beene spoken of and fewe matters haue beene issued by reason that new matters haue beene vpsterted whyles a former hath beene in heeringe and so much tyme spent and lytle work done"; wherefore it is ordered that the seven men have "fore knowledge" of anything "to be agitated." The rules for "the Schoole of Dorchester" confirmed in 1644 enjoined the schoolmaster that

"4ly eüery second day in the weeke he shall call his schollers together betweene 12 and one of the Clock to examin them what they haue learned on the saboath day p'ceding at which tyme also he shall take notice of any misdemeanor or disorder that any of his skollers shall haue Committed on the saboath to the end that at somme convenient tyme due Admonition, and Correction may be admistred by him according as the nature, and qualitie of the offence shall require."

"5ly hee shall equally and impartially receiue, and instruct such as shalbe sent and Comitted to him for that end whither their parents bee poore or rich not refusing any who haue Right and Interest in the Schoole."

"6ly And because the Rodd of Correction is an ordinance of God necessary sometymes to bee dispensed vnto children but such as may easily be abused by oümuch seüitie and rigour on the one hand, or by oü much indulgence and lenitye on the other. It is therefore ordered and agreed that the schoolemaster for the tyme beeing shall haue full power to minister Correction to all or any of his schollers without respect of p'sons," etc.

The standing terror of the Puritan polity was the stranger who might become a burden upon the town. In 1658,

"It is ordered therefore by the select men of this towne that if any maner of p'son ore p'sons in this towne shall intertaine any soiorneur ore inmate into his or ther house ore habitation aboue one weeke without lisencc from the selectmen ore the maior parte of them first had and obtained, shall forfeit fiue shillings, and for every weeke continuance three shillings foure pence."

Hence in 1671 Francis Bale was taken to task "for Entertaining his Brother in law phillip Searle and his famely in his house without licence"; and Richard Butt for entertaining his father-in-law Stephen Hoppen, "whos answer was that he did not entertaine him, . . . but for to turne him out of deares, he could not Considering the relation that is between them, but he would willingly be ridd of him if he could"; and "the wife of Henery Merrifield" "for entertaining of their daughter Funnell, Contrary to towne order, whose answer was, that she was their daughter and Could not turne her out of doars this winter time but she would willingly returne to her husband as soone as a passadg p'sents." So, too, in 1679, John Jackson had to file his bond "to secur the towne from damedg" by reason of the further entertainment of "Op'tunitie Lane his daughter in law Contrary to towne order"; and the year before, the luckless "John Brown" appeared and thought that he might Come into town to be inhabitant becaus born in the town and that he might be an help to his father and mother, the Select men did Respit the full determination at that time to know the towns mind therein and in the meane time his warning out of town to continue in force." But perhaps the most stubborn case here recorded is the following (1672):

"The Select men haueing sent for John plum and his daughter Mercy, and finding that his said daughter being married to Thomas Chub of Beuer lee, and being alsoe neere the time of her deliuey is not p'vided for by her said husband, nor taken home to him, but continues heer with her father, contrary to good order, and to the hazarding of a charge vpon the towne, doe therefore order and requier that the said Mercy Chub doe speedily within Six or eight days leaue this towne, and betake herself to her said husband. And doe also warne and order the said John Plum that he noe longer entertaine his said daughter, but hasten her to her husband as aforesaid," etc.

Instead of this the husband rather hastened to his wife (1673), bringing his father-in-law into fresh trouble, and in 1674 the worthy Plum was for the third time summoned to "Clee the towne of them." For a final glimpse of the interference with domestic relations let us notice that Francis Bale reappears in 1679 to answer the selectmen's enquiries "Concerning his outward Estate," of which he seems to have had none too much, for they "aduised him to dispose of two of his Children, his answer was that his wife was not willing the Select men p'swaded him to p'swad his wife to it."

Our space warns us to pass over other marked passages of equal humor with the foregoing. We cannot forbear remarking that the Record Commissioners had proposed to reprint only the land records of this volume, but that a protest having been raised by very respectable citizens of Dorchester, a committee of the Common Council reported in favor of a complete reproduction, on historical and patriotic grounds. One looks for a Puritan signature to such a report, and it is an agreeable surprise to find it signed "Hugh O'Brien, Chairman."

*The Worst Boy in Town.* By the author of 'Helen's Babies.' (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1880.)—This book belongs to the new dispensation of books about boys; we were about to say of Sunday-schools books, but possibly we have yet to wait for Sunday-schools sufficiently advanced to have reasonable hopes of catching up with it. It is written in the now familiar and perhaps hackneyed vein of protest against the old order of pietistic juvenile literature, and is a defiant departure from former classic models in the direction of "naturalism." The author is felt to be a kind of Baudelaire, except for the fact that he is a little tardy with his "Fleurs du Mal," and as wroth with the false and affected academic notions of Miss Edgeworth and the Misses Warner as the early romanticists were with canons of adult literature then prevailing. He must be charged, however, with ignoring an important element in the construction of "naturalist" moral tales. They must be manufactured with a deft touch to be entirely acceptable. The author of 'The New Sanford and Merton,' and more recently Mark Twain, understood this better, and accordingly their works of this sort have a distinctly humorous quality, or at least a comic flavor, whereas, though it would be unjust to say that 'The Worst Boy in Town' can be read without a smile, it is perfectly true that the proportion of depression to mirth that it contains is dejectingly preponderant. Few things of the kind are more laughable, for instance, than the description of the strategy with which Master Tom Sawyer contrived to get his task of whitewashing a fence performed; it may be remembered that Tom was averse to labor but a thorough child of this world, and when given this distasteful job as a punishment compassed it by representing to a comrade that it was a very delicate æsthetic performance, and declining for a brief time on that ground to allow him to touch the brush. The author of 'The Worst Boy in Town' lays violent hands on this incident, and devotes a chapter to an account of how his boy got his comrades to chop the wood he had himself been set to chop for misconduct; and we are bound to confess we have rarely read twelve more dreary pages, and this not because chopping wood is naturally less humorous than whitewashing, nor wholly because the humorous possibilities of the situation had already been exhausted by Mark Twain, but because of what housewives call the "heavy-handedness" that the author betrays. Again, nothing is more requisite than a light and tricky treatment when one is describing the absurdities of prayer-meetings, and the rollicking fun which boys who are not milksops may have by sticking pins into, throwing "spit-balls" at, and peppering with torpedoes the enthusiasts who take part in them. This sort of style will never do:

"Under the single slat which formed the back of the bench and directly in front of him Jack beheld the broad and well-patched trousers-seat of Nuderkopf Trinkelspiel, and Satan, who long ago became noted for putting in an appearance when the sons of God were in council (see Job, chap. i.), suggested to Jack that through such a mass of patches a bent pin might work its way for quite a distance without doing any serious damage to the wearer. Jack broke an anticipatory laugh square in two and closed his eyes in prayer to be delivered from temptation, but," etc., etc.

This must be described as irrelevantly labored, and before we get to the event we lose our interest in seeing the meeting break up in disorder. We must add that another fatal defect of the book is its lack of verisimilitude, and the danger it thus illustrates of falling into the opposite extreme to that of the old order of moral tales. "The worst boy in town" transformed into a mere puppet can have no more influence for good than impossible "Little Episcopalians." It is to be feared that the writer not only fails to treat his subject

flippantly enough, but fails to conceive it seriously enough; and the latter, we need not point out, is as grave a defect under the circumstances as the other, and one we never expected to find in the author of 'Helen's Babies.'

*Der moderne musikalische Zopf.* Eine Studie von Emil Naumann, Prof. Dr. u. Koenigl. Hofkirchen-Musikdirector. (Berlin: Robert Oppenheim.)—Emil Naumann's musical study gives us an insight into the present musical condition of Germany. We see how intense is the party spirit, how bitter the feeling among the worshippers of Wagner and Brahms towards the disciples of the classical school. The author is one of the neutrals whose number is very limited in Germany, and who, standing on a higher plane than the contending parties, should be able to give an impartial criticism. He is pained to see how many musicians have not the slightest perception of organic unity in the laws which govern music, and are wholly ignorant of the history of music. When the representatives of the classical school are in their most generous mood they assert that with Beethoven the history of music ends; while, on the other hand, the modern Romanticists regard Beethoven as only the beginning of the higher development, and some of them are willing to concede even this honor only to the Beethoven of the Ninth Symphony and the later string quartettes. Naumann, though he is ready enough to make concessions to living masters, is not of the opinion that any one has the right to make changes in the scores of the great composers of former times. The fact that Beethoven omits a repetition of the first part of the allegro in his Ninth Symphony, at once emboldens the newest of our new musicians to do away with all tradition and omit the da capo in symphonies and sonatas. Beethoven's last sonata for the piano in C minor, Op. 111, and his string quartette in B major, Op. 130—both works belonging to the same period as the Ninth Symphony—have an express direction for the da capo, and prove clearly that Beethoven himself could not have understood an omission of it in the light of a reform. Naumann thinks it equally unjustifiable when famous quartette-players spoil Haydn's lovely music, in itself so grand and simple, by an amount of false sentimentality and a number of pianissimos, fortissimos, crescendos, diminuendos, and sforzandos, that would make poor papa Haydn turn in his grave should he hear them. Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn, he thinks, certainly stand in no need of having their taste corrected by these modern apostles. "Away with these dusty traditions!" they cry, "which impede your flight, and you will soar sunward like eagles." Therefore, especially, "away with the sonata! that most threadbare of the antiquated garments of the past." Jean Jacques Rousseau's "Que me veux-tu, Sonate?" might be excused on the ground that the best of them with which he was acquainted were the compositions of Samartini (1700-1775) and Sacchini (1735-1786). Had he been so fortunate as to hear Haydn's, Mozart's, and Beethoven's symphonies and sonatas he would have changed his mind as readily as, after becoming acquainted with Gluck, he retracted what he had said in his 'Dictionnaire de Musique' about the superiority of the Italian opera. With Gluck and Mozart the musical drama reaches its climax. Gluck pre-eminently is the master who in his own productions designates the exact boundary between music as an independent art and music as the mere reinforcement of diction. He who aspires to go beyond the great master in this direction can produce at best but a musical mongrel, which is neither genuine poetry nor genuine music. The so-called leading-motive (*Leitmotiv*) is not original with the musicians of "the future"; only the immense abuse of it is the special property of this party. The *Leitmotiv* existed two hundred years ago, but not as the mere mannerism which it has now become. When the theme in the introduction of the overture to Mozart's "Don Giovanni" resounds again in the mouth of the *Commendatore* at the finale of the opera, or when the trumpet-signal in Beethoven's great overture to "Leonora" is heard again later on in the prison scene, the two themes, considered as musical prologues, are like an awful foreboding, and intensely powerful in their effect.

The last chapter of the little volume is mainly devoted to Wagner. After a brief sketch of the renaissance in Italy, and of the condition of music in Germany in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, we are told that the epoch of German musical genius begins with Johann Sebastian Bach and ends with Beethoven. Between this great beginning and this great end come in chronological order Haendel, Gluck, Haydn, and Mozart, equally great in their several ways. Composers of the later period like Franz Schubert, Weber, Spohr, Marschner, Berlioz, Chopin, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and contemporaries like Wagner, Liszt, and Brahms are characterized as men of great talent. All of them except Mendelssohn (and the exception is made only in favor of his oratorios, psalms, and church music) represent in greater or less degree the new Romantic school.

"The predominating tendency of Wagner's dramas," we are told, "manifests itself in the portrayal of the Germano-Christian world of the middle ages, in the idealization of woman (originating in mediæval Mariolatry) into the redeeming angel of man, who is lost in a world of diabolism and sin, such as she appears in *Senta* in the 'Flying Dutchman,' and in *Elizabeth* in 'Tannhäuser'; or again in an attempted glorification of free love, in the spirit of mediæval chivalry, as a mysterious celestial power which overrides all



conventional restraints, as in 'Tristan und Isolde'; or, finally, in a revival of the 'Minne' and 'Meister' songs of the mediæval and succeeding periods, as exhibited in the 'Meistersinger.'

In his love for themes from German mythology Wagner shows himself a true disciple of the Romantic school, though his Nibelungen dramas are somewhat of a departure from his general tendency; yet in the last of them, the "Götterdämmerung," he hints clearly enough at a speedy return, for the fall of *Wotan* and *Walhalla* would seem to indicate that the old Teutonic gods had not brought the fulfilment of things, and that something higher must be expected. In "Parsifal" we have, as he himself says, the keystone of all his creations. In this drama he emphasizes even more intensely and passionately the Germano-Christian tendency with which he started, and which is the basis of his earliest musical productions. Naumann remarks that modes of thought which were perfectly natural, healthy, and justified in Dante's or Wolfram von Eschenbach's time, or in the time of the Crusades, are to-day morbid and affected, because there is nothing in contemporary history to furnish a background for them.

Franz Liszt, the second eminent "talent" in the new school, shows a close resemblance to Wagner in his symphonic poems "Tasso," "Dante," "Hamlet," in his oratorio of "Christus," and in some of his songs and legends. The events of his life more even than his works are proofs of this similarity. The great virtuoso, celebrated and applauded by the world, the artist who had spent more than half of a long life in brilliant gaieties and excitements, after a fantastic existence makes a pilgrimage to Rome, like a knight of the middle ages, there exchanges the coat of the layman for the priestly robe, retires to the Dominican convent on Monte Mario and soon becomes the favorite of Pio Nono, who calls him his faithful son, his "Palestrina." Another great "talent," though not so closely related to Wagner, is Johannes Brahms. Robert Schumann stood godfather to his first productions, and before he died gave Brahms a kind of prophetic blessing. Yet Wagner's influence upon him and his productions is easily traceable, no matter how much his disciples may try to deny it. They are, as a party, even more one-sided and conceited than the Wagnerites, and form as great a mutual admiration society as these. Who was it that announced the first symphonic work of Brahms as the "Tenth Symphony"? Not the worshippers of Wagner, but Brahminical idolaters. The essentially lyrical talent of Brahms ought never to have been compared with Beethoven, to whose unapproachable greatness Wagner comes at any rate somewhat nearer than Brahms, who is by nature tender and delicately strung, whilst the former puts the stamp of his powerful personality upon all his productions. Naumann closes his volume with the hope that by his frank and impartial criticism he has earned the approval and sympathy of all those who share his opinions in silence without daring to express them openly. The future will show how far he is right.

*The Poetry of the Talmud.* By S. Sekles. (New York, 1880.)—To one of the component elements of the Talmud the author of this book has furnished an introduction which is not lacking in interest and in merit. Such introductions are indispensable aids to any student of the vast Talmudic literature. They have been felt to be a necessity since Samuel ibn Nagdilah, in the eleventh century, wrote his 'Introduction to the Talmud,' and large is the number of such keys and guides which have appeared since then. For the Talmudic literature treats of the most diversified subjects, is almost all-embracing, and reflects all the various aspects of the mental life of the Jews during the seven centuries following the Maccabean war of independence, in the second century before Christ. The rich contents of the Talmud, embarrassing *per se*, become still more perplexing and appear still more entangled and chaotic in consequence of the lack of order and systematic treatment. Even the specialist who devotes all his time to the study of the Talmud will find it difficult, without the help of good and reliable guides, not to become lost in this pathless labyrinth. The one great element of the Talmud, known under the name Halakhah, and treating of the legal life of Judaism, has been systematized, codified, commented upon by numberless post-Talmudical scholars. Another large part of the Talmudic literature—and, in the wider sense of the word, the Midrashim, etc., are also included in this term—is called the Agadah, and comprises the didactic, narrative, and poetically fanciful utterances of the Rabbis in the period indicated above. The Agadah, too, has been the subject of a considerable number of books of diverse value. There exist Agadic chrestomathies and anthologies, more or less complete; there exist learned writings on the nature, and contents, and origin, and meaning of these peculiar products of Eastern fancy. A few modern writers on this subject may be characterized as being unbiassed and truly scholarly, while others still pursue the old apologetic and unscientific tendencies, and, by applying a totally unhistoric method, still allegorize even the grossest superstitions prevalent in those ancient times, and the grossest Münchhausenisms of a Rabbi Bar bar 'Hanah and others. By such perverted hermeneutics they succeed in finding in the Agadah a pre-

meditated symbolic and parabolic teaching of most sublime doctrines, of which the first originators of those portions of the Talmud had not the remotest idea. But is this allegorical method of explaining the Talmudical Agadah any better than the method of the Mohammedan clergy in Persia, who symbolize the lyric outbursts of Hafiz, the singer of Shiraz, and who find, for instance, in the wine whose praise is sung by him a symbol of faith; in intoxication caused by wine-drinking, a symbol of the religious ecstasy of the soul; in the beloved maiden, the personification of the community of the faithful; in the friend with whom the poet spends his happy and joyous hours, a mystic representation of the Deity? This method, however, is by no means restricted to the scholars of Persia and to the commentators of the Talmud. The theological literature of other denominations, too, offers parallels without number.

Admitting that the Talmud, like every other contemporaneous literature, contains elements which no artificial apology can elevate into absolute and eternal wisdom, it must also be conceded that it is exceedingly rich in true poetry, lofty and sublime, and in sayings breathing the purest ethics. As to Mr. Sekles's work, we have to say that, in the absence of any similar book in the English language more thorough and exhaustive and scholarly, it is to be recommended as one which gives to the general reader a fair idea of the Agadah. In special chapters it speaks of compositions for liturgical purposes, of wedding celebrations, funeral orations, fables, proverbs, riddles, and so forth, and the examples and illustrations the author gives will undoubtedly appear to many to be interesting. In making his selections from the abundant materials the author must have had considerable difficulty. Very annoying is the slovenly and uneven manner in which the Hebrew words are transliterated. Sometimes the Dagesh forte is indicated by doubling the consonant, but in innumerable cases this has not been done. And thus we find the unorthographic spellings: Shamai, Kama, Vidui, Nida, Tefila, Tana, etc. Nissim (instead of *nesi'im*, p. 7), sholom (instead of *shalom*, p. 12), sufdanim (instead of *sappedanum*, p. 12), bechoroth (instead of *biccurim*, p. 10), and similar other grammatical and orthographical monstrosities greatly disfigure the book. A little more scholarly exactness, a little more quickening of the philological conscience, a little less carelessness in these things are greatly to be desired, not only in our author, but in very many others who appear before the public as writers on Jewish and Hebrew topics.

*The Progress of the World in Arts, Agriculture, Commerce, Manufactures, Instruction, Railways, and Public Wealth since the Beginning of the Nineteenth Century.* By Michael G. Mulhall, F.S.S. (London: Edward Stanford, 1880. 12mo, pp. viii.-569.)—Mr. Mulhall's book, though not announced as an annual publication, is best described by comparing it with Martin's well-known 'Statesman's Year-Book.' The latter is intended to show, primarily, how the world is governed, Mr. Mulhall's work how it is growing. The two works present a nearly equal amount of information about the leading states of the civilized world, and some part of the data are similar in the two, as, for instance, the statistics of population, area, and traffic. But the space that Mr. Martin gives to reigning families and sovereigns is taken up in Mr. Mulhall's book with statistical accounts of the vital and industrial development of the different peoples. In the first part are grouped, in such a way that comparison may be made at a glance between the different nations, the statistics of capital, income, accumulations, commerce, landed property, manufactures, instruction, charities, etc. These are given mostly in round numbers; they form a more serviceable conspectus of the Western world's economic condition than we have elsewhere seen within the same compass. Part II. gives in fuller detail the leading statistics of the British Empire, and Part III. more briefly those of foreign countries, the latest sources of information being used. Mr. Mulhall has done his work with great care and intelligence, and he has found room for a number of the curiosities of statistics, vital and other. The book is well indexed.

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Bissell (Rev. E. C.), The Apocrypha of the Old Testament.....	(Chas. Scribner's Sons)
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Brooks (N.), The Fairport Nine.....	"
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Cable (G. W.), The Grandissimes: a Tale.....	(Chas. Scribner's Sons)
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Dumas (A. jr.), Les Femmes qui tuent, and les Femmes qui votent, swd.....	(F. W. Christern)
Edwards (Jonathan), The Scripture (Economy of the Trinity).....	(Chas. Scribner's Sons)
Greene (Lieut. F. V.), Sketches of Army Life in Russia.....	"
Hodge (A. A.), Life of Charles Hodge, D.D.....	"
Lamb (Mrs. M. J.), History of the City of New York, Vol. II., Part 12, swd.....	(A. S. Barnes & Co.) 50
Mathews (W. S. K.), How to Understand Music.....	(Chicago) 2 25
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Von Hillern (W.), The Hour Will Come.....	(Wm. S. Gottsberger)
Wheildon (W. W.), Boston—1630-1880.....	(Lee & Shepard) 1 00
White (Wm.), Memoirs of the Protestant Episcopal Church.....	(E. P. Dutton & Co.) 4 00
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